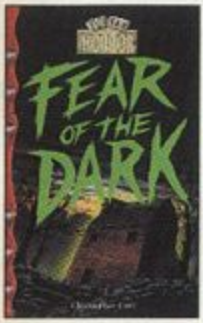
Well, you have been warned ...

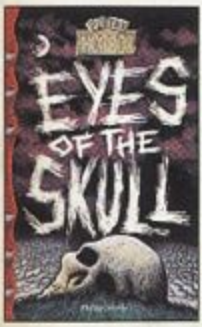
Here are those horror stories to hide under the bedclothes and give you goose bumps galore! Dare you turn out the light after reading them? Or are you too cowardly to collect the whole series?



What evil lurks in the ancient aqueducts of Martyn's Mille?

Painted faces, painted dreams ... all the fun of the fair doesn't seem so funny any more.

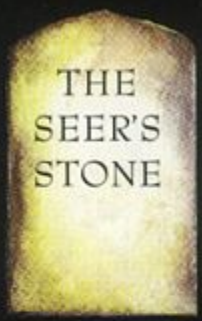
Can the TV detective help the victims of the network of terror?



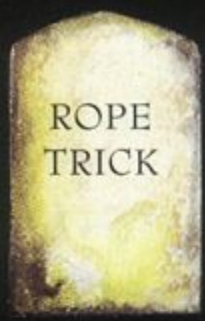
Nightmare visions of a grinning skull; what could this phantom signify?

Power turns to terror when the four corners of evil are reunited.

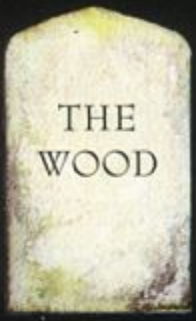
Is life worth living when practical jokes and jealous friends take over?



Never underestimate mystic powers and magical minds - and remember ...don't look into His eyes!



Film-making is fun ... but not when the props take on a life of their own.



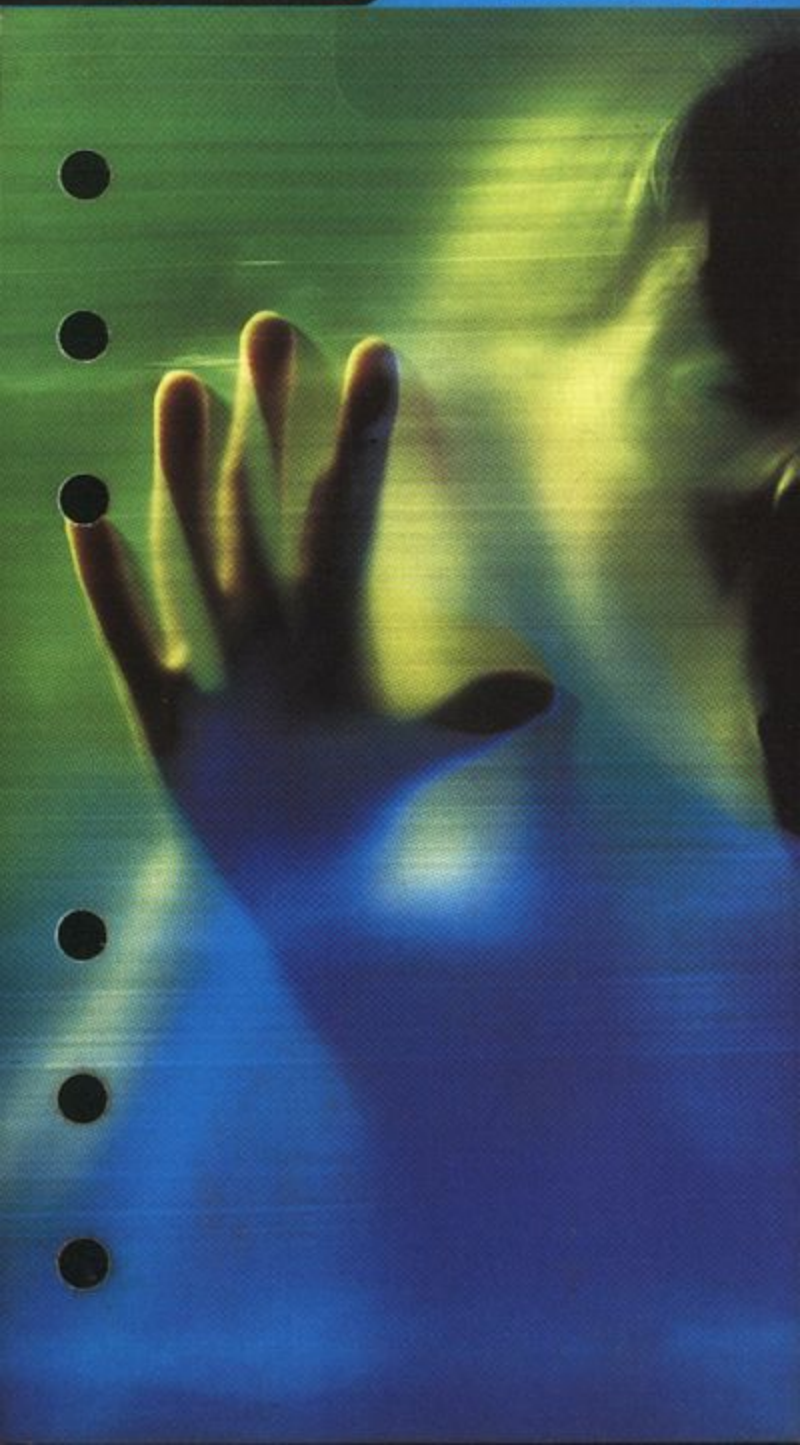
If you go down to the woods today, watch out for a ghostly surprise ...

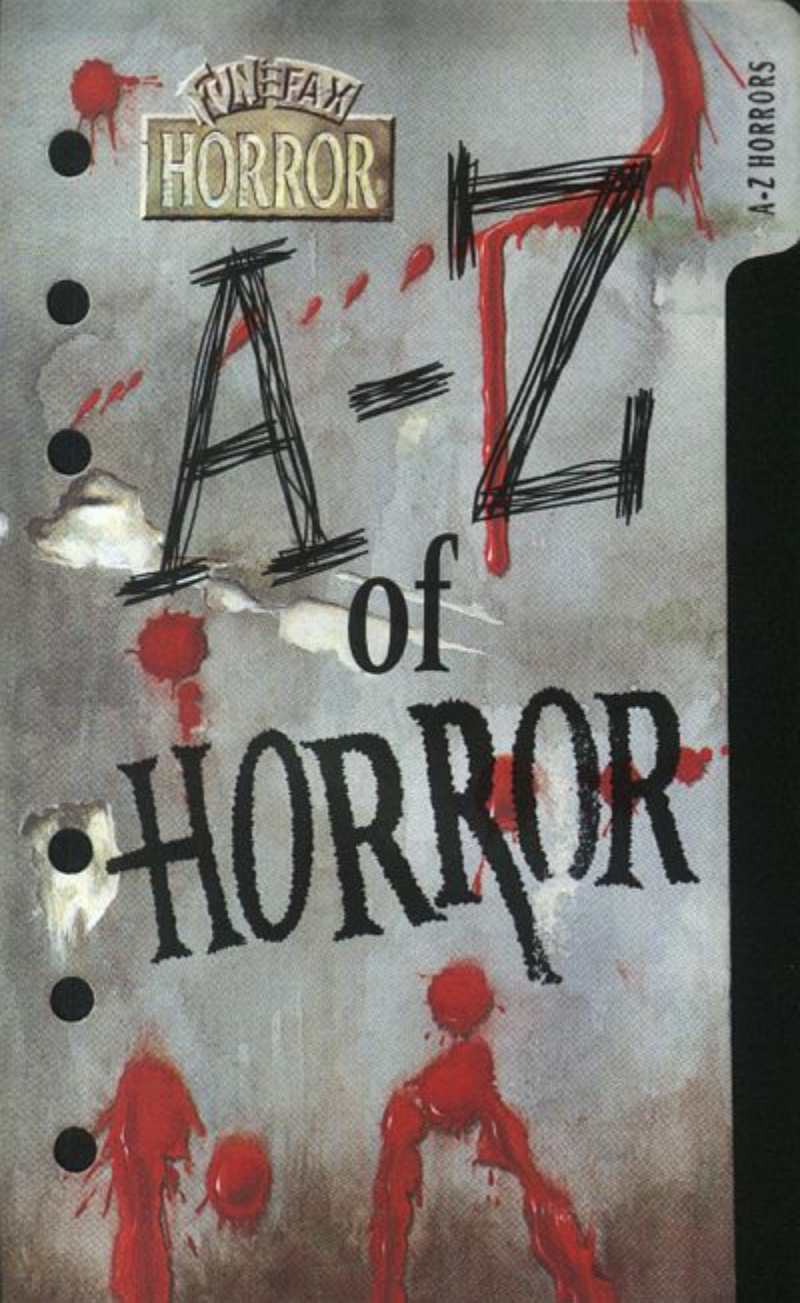
Meddling with relics of the past could unleash your worst nightmares. The Evil Eye sees them all.

It's the friends you can't see that you can't control.

WATCH OUT FOR THESE FORTHCOMING TITLES; YOU'LL FIND A NEW SPINE-TINGLER EVERY MONTH!

FUNFAX HORROR BOOK




PINEFAX
HORROR
A-Z
of
HORROR
A-Z HORRORS

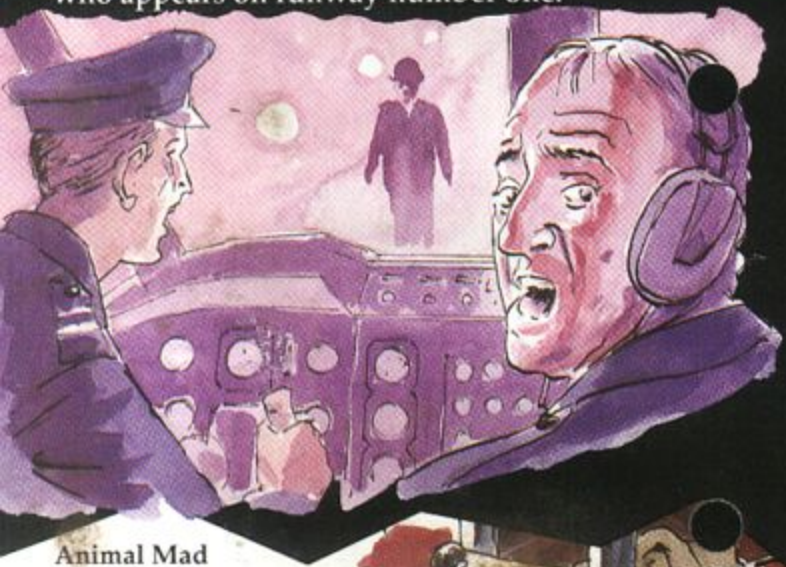
AH PUCH

In the ancient world of the Mayan civilization, AH PUCH was god of death, and feared by all.

This horrible character ruled the ninth, and lowest, of the underworlds. This was supposed to be a place of terrible torment. Whether Mayans terrified themselves with such a story, or whether they invented it to scare their enemies is not at all sure . Ah Puch was depicted as a menacing skeleton or even a horribly bloated corpse. (More like Ah, Yuck!) Legend tells how he prowled around the houses of anyone who fell ill, in his endless search for prey to carry off back to the underworld. (What a cosy bedside manner!) Ah Puch always carried a knife bearing his insignia. No prizes for guessing what he used it for!

AIRPORT APPARITIONS

Heathrow airport in London is said to have three ghosts. One has never been seen, but it pants like a dog and breathes down people's necks. Another ghost is a man wearing a grey suit who likes to make himself comfortable in the VIP lounge of Terminal One. Pilots may have been startled by the third ghost, in a bowler hat, who appears on runway number one.



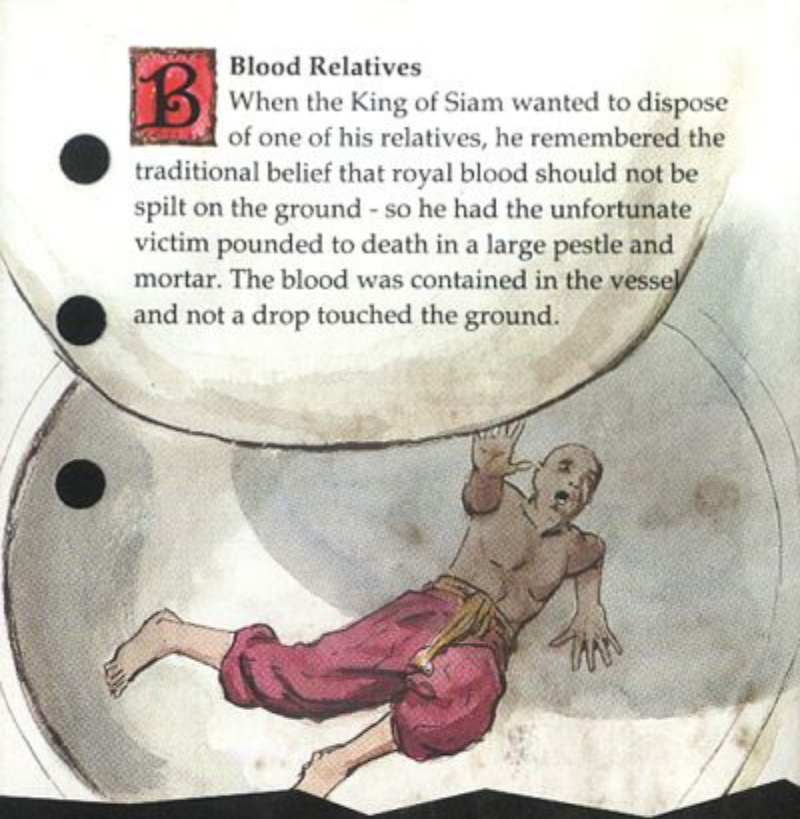
Animal Mad
American cat lover, Governor Pinchot, sentenced the dog that killed his cat to life imprisonment. The dog served six years.

Assassin Pope
Pope Alexander VI died after consuming poison he had intended for his cardinals.

Awful Act
The act permitting condemned criminals to be boiled to death was repealed in 1547.

Blood Relatives

When the King of Siam wanted to dispose of one of his relatives, he remembered the traditional belief that royal blood should not be spilt on the ground - so he had the unfortunate victim pounded to death in a large pestle and mortar. The blood was contained in the vessel and not a drop touched the ground.

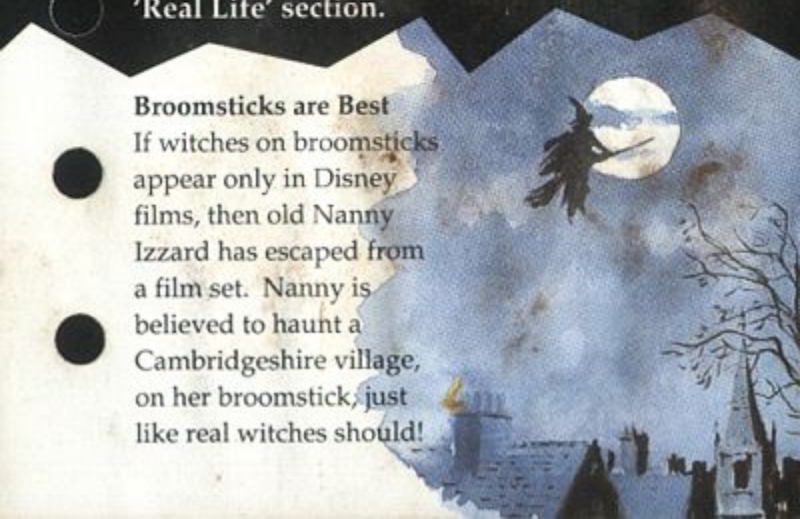


Bodysnatchers - see Burke and Hare in 'Real Life' section.

Butcher of Hanover - see 'Real Life'.

Broomsticks are Best

If witches on broomsticks appear only in Disney films, then old Nanny Izzard has escaped from a film set. Nanny is believed to haunt a Cambridgeshire village, on her broomstick, just like real witches should!

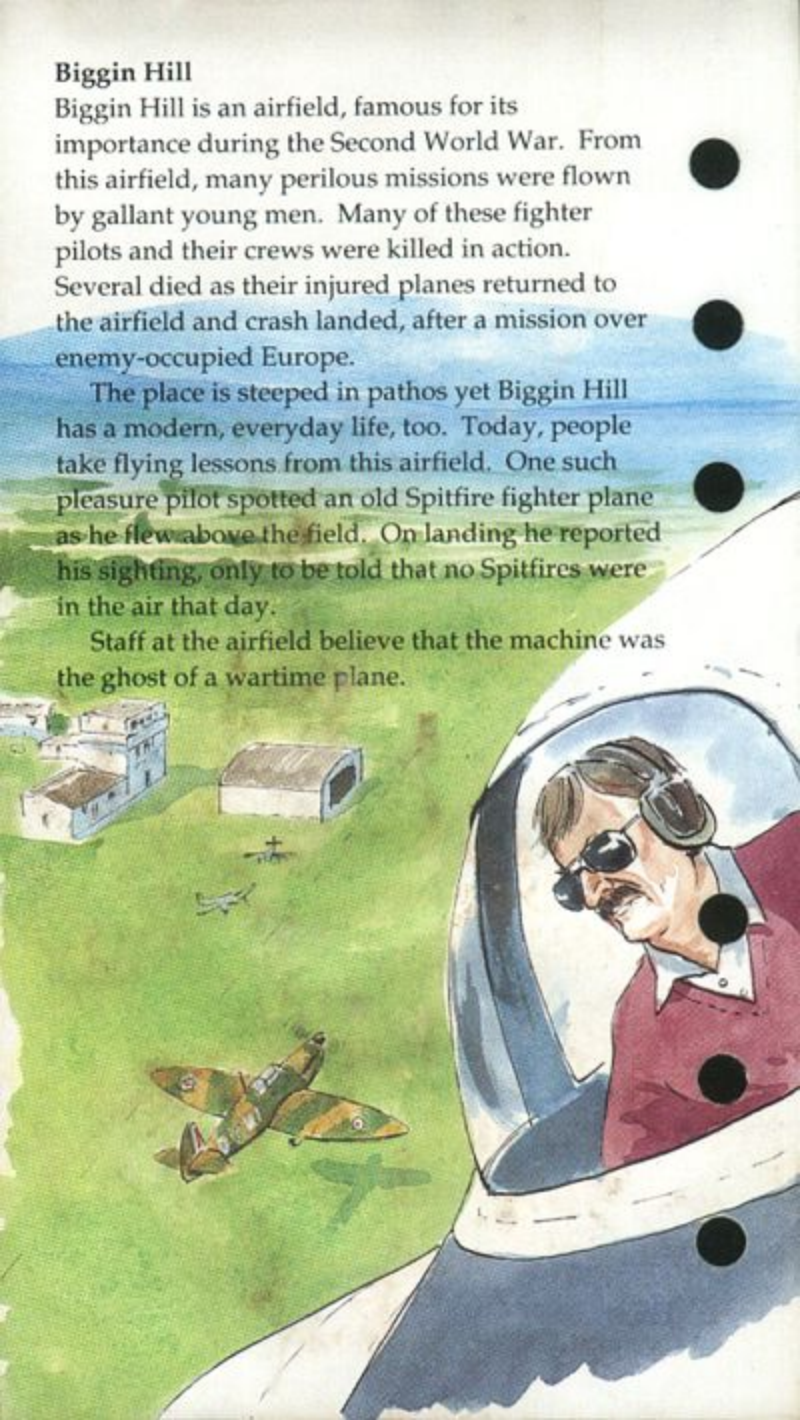


Biggin Hill

Biggin Hill is an airfield, famous for its importance during the Second World War. From this airfield, many perilous missions were flown by gallant young men. Many of these fighter pilots and their crews were killed in action. Several died as their injured planes returned to the airfield and crash landed, after a mission over enemy-occupied Europe.

The place is steeped in pathos yet Biggin Hill has a modern, everyday life, too. Today, people take flying lessons from this airfield. One such pleasure pilot spotted an old Spitfire fighter plane as he flew above the field. On landing he reported his sighting, only to be told that no Spitfires were in the air that day.

Staff at the airfield believe that the machine was the ghost of a wartime plane.



CHRISTMAS COACHMAN

If ever you should chance to drive through the county of Suffolk on Christmas Eve, beware! You may be overtaken by some unusual traffic.
To a certain house, on that certain night drives a spectral coach, with a team of four phantom horses. These extraordinary Christmas visitors have been reported by people living in the nearby village.
So, if you should see a coach and horses pass by late on that particular night, how will you know if it's a ghost? Just take a good look at the coachman, if you dare. He's headless, so you'll be sure to recognise him!

Coffin Mystery

Richard Jordan lived and died in an Essex village, in the 18th century. At his funeral, eleven clergymen attended. Yet his body was found outside the coffin so often that it had to be tied round with heavy chains, to stop whatever it was from moving it around.

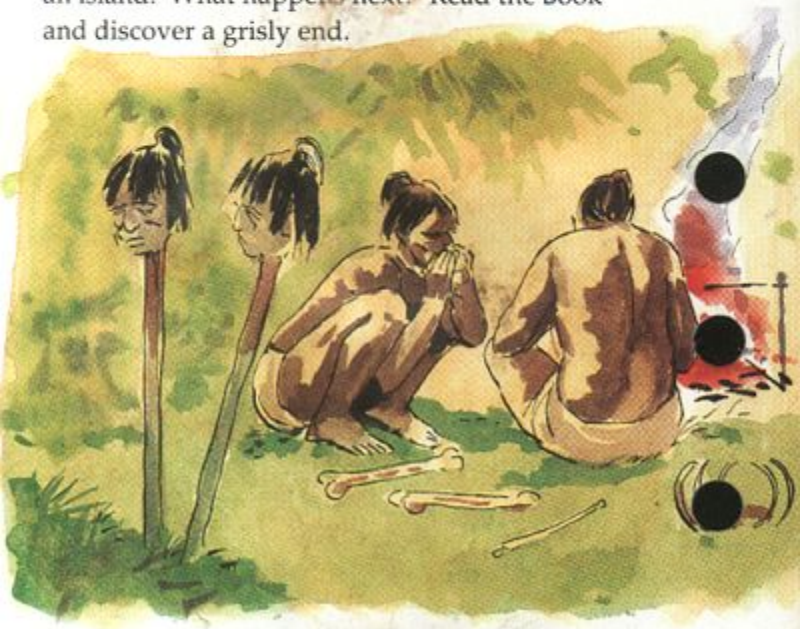
Cannibalism

Scientists studying cannibalism have shown that a man weighing 68 kg (150 lb) would make a meal for seventy-five people.

Sailors reaching the Marquesas Islands found the locals a little strange - they were tattooed from head to foot and their ears were stretched down to their shoulders. Ouch!

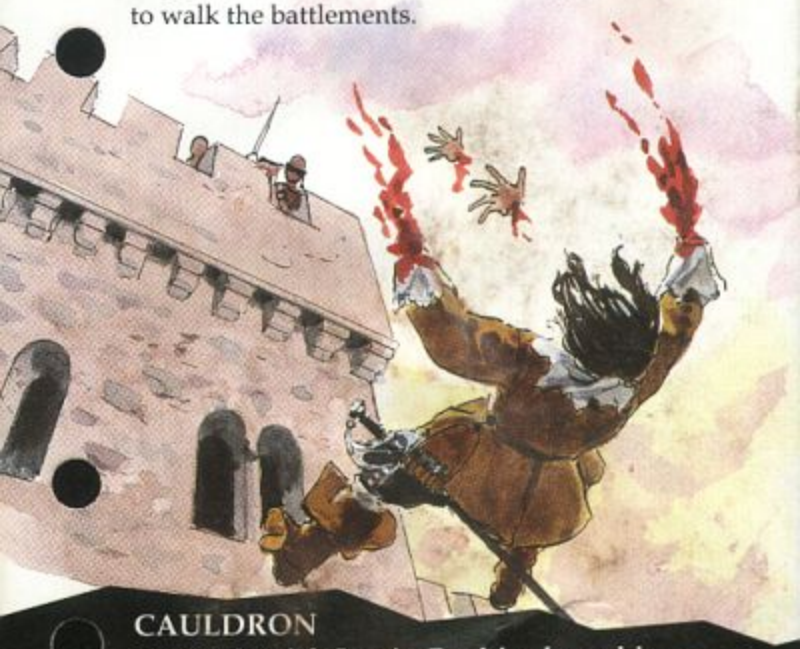
The natives of Fiji would cut off a captive's tongue or fingers. They would roast them for a nutritious snack before killing and cooking the rest of him. Heads were taken in war and enemy corpses eaten to acquire victims' personal supply of spiritual and magical energy. So, watch out in Fiji.

Author William Golding wrote a hair-raising story about cannibalism. In his book, "Lord of the Flies", a group of schoolboys are shipwrecked on an island. What happens next? Read the book and discover a grisly end.



Castle of Terror

During the English Civil War, King Charles I's guardian was hiding at Woodcroft Castle. Cromwell's soldiers seized the castle and chased the poor man to the battlements. He tried desperately to hide by climbing over and clinging to the top with his fingertips. A Roundhead spotted his hands, and chopped them off. He fell to the moat below, but that was not the end of the savagery. Soldiers pulled him out and cut out his tongue. He died soon after and his ghost is said to walk the battlements.

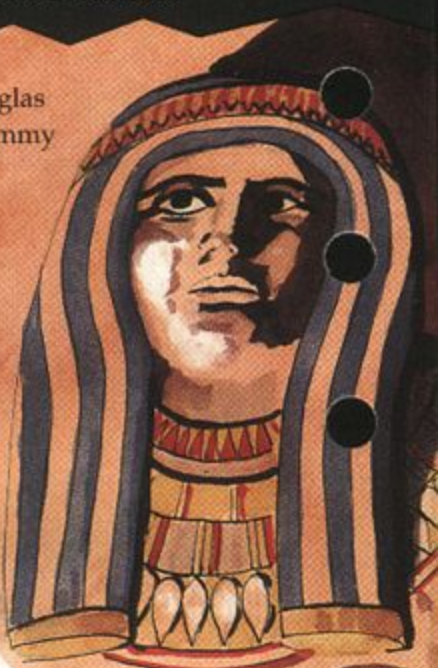


CAULDRON

At the Ostrich Inn in Buckinghamshire, there was once a most unfriendly landlord. He installed a strange-looking bed at the inn. Could it be for guests with bad backs? This bed had special hinges. When the fancy took him, our host would activate the trap-door, plunging the sleepers into a boiling cauldron in the kitchen below.

Crippen, Dr. - see 'Real Life' section.

Curse from Cairo



In 1910, Egyptologist, Douglas Murray, was offered a mummy case belonging to a high princess who had been in the temple of Ammon-Ra. She had lived around 1600BC. Murray couldn't refuse. The evening he bought the mummy, the American who had just sold it to him unfortunately died. Murray then discovered the princess had cursed anyone who disturbed her body. On the way back to England, two of the Egyptologist's friends died from unknown causes. Then two Egyptian helpers who had touched the body also died. Murray himself went on a hunting expedition where his gun exploded and he had to have his arm amputated. This was only 3 days after buying the princess. Murray decided to get rid of the case, and gave it to a lady. Her mother and her boyfriend died soon after, and the lady fell victim to a horrible disease.

Murray got the case back. Next, a photographer dropped dead after taking a picture of the princess. The man in charge of the mummy at the British Museum was found dead in his bed. The princess was then shipped to a museum in New York. She never arrived because the ship sank. It was the Titanic.

in-law waited.

As the trap crossed the bridge, the gentleman leapt out and seized the horse. Josiah thrashed him with his horse-whip but he was overpowered, dragged from his seat and pinned with his back against the stone wall. His attacker wasted no time. With his victim still held in a tight clinch, he drew out a butcher's knife, razor sharp. He struck, slitting open Josiah's throat and stabbing his body furiously, blow after blow.

Josiah, bully, liar, cheat and wife-murderer, lay dead, slumped over the parapet on the bridge. His blood trickled down, seeping into the stones. Behind him, his brother-in-law sprang into the trap and fled as far from the place as he could.

When Josiah's butchered corpse was found next day, and questions were asked, no-one thought of the brother-in-law. Fingers were pointed. One local man had once dared to threaten the loathsome Josiah Burge. Other villagers were eager to accuse their neighbour. Days after the murder on the bridge, the unfortunate villager was hanged.

The bridge, in time, would see justice avenged for this killing, too. On the anniversary of Josiah's murder, so the story goes, the brother-in-law returned to the

very spot where he had done away with his sister's cruel husband. Was it macabre curiosity, or a deep, aching guilt that drew him? No one knows, but return he did, in the darkness of the night on April 7th.

Alone with his thoughts, the gentleman rested on the bridge. As he stood, a skeleton leapt up from beneath the bridge, hurled itself toward him like a wild animal, and pressed him roughly up against the stone wall. Before the gentleman could escape its clutches, the skeleton flourished a great butcher's knife, and deftly slit his throat ... ear to ear. Then it stabbed his body, blow for blow. Just as he had done a year before, to Josiah Burge.

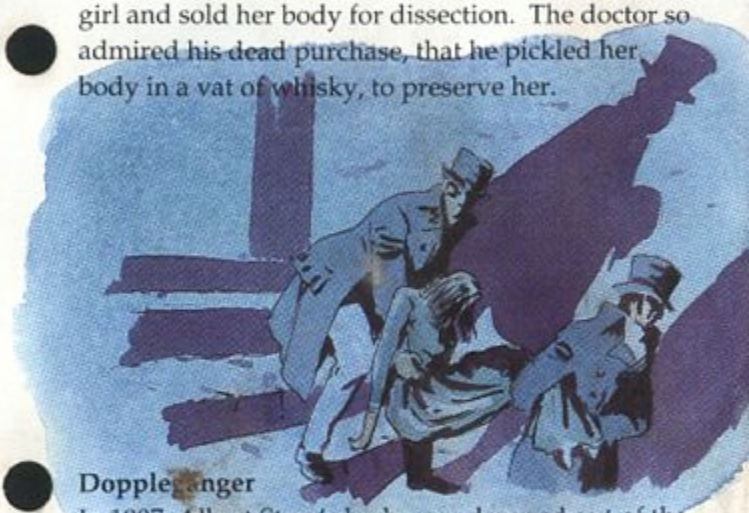
In the darkness, the phantom attacker vanished. As the gentleman lay dying, his life's blood streamed down the pale stones of the little bridge.

And it is said, by those in the village who dare, that every year, at a certain time, on this April night, the horrible scene is re-enacted. There on the bridge, the phantom murderer reaps his brutal revenge. And they do say, in the village, that the blood stains remain, deep in the stone, never to fade. You can see these grim signs for yourself, perhaps ... if you care to stand on the village bridge on an April night.

Doctor Death

In the early days of medicine, doctors had to make close studies of dead bodies, to learn their trade. This was sometimes a problem, since refrigeration did not yet exist. Corpses didn't stay fresh for long so a lot were needed! Some doctors paid people to dig up bodies secretly from new graves.

Burke and Hare were infamous grave robbers who eventually turned to murder to supply an eminent doctor's needs. They murdered a beautiful girl and sold her body for dissection. The doctor so admired his dead purchase, that he pickled her body in a vat of whisky, to preserve her.



Doppleganger

In 1907, Albert Steer's body was dragged out of the River Thames in London, only the day before he had left home in Bickley, London, saying he was going to Surrey. Both his son and daughter identified the body which bore their father's unusual features; one eye, a crushed toe and a dent over his eyebrow where there was bone missing. The body was then buried.

Two months later, Albert Steer arrived home safe and well. He had been working as a gardener.

So who was the person dragged from the river, identical to the unusual Mr Steer?

Dracula, Count - author Bram Stoker's evil character, said to be based on Vlad the Impaler - see 'Real Life'.

Dracula, Countess - the name given to Countess Elizabeth Bathory, Hungarian serial killer. See 'Real Life'.

Daddy, Daddy

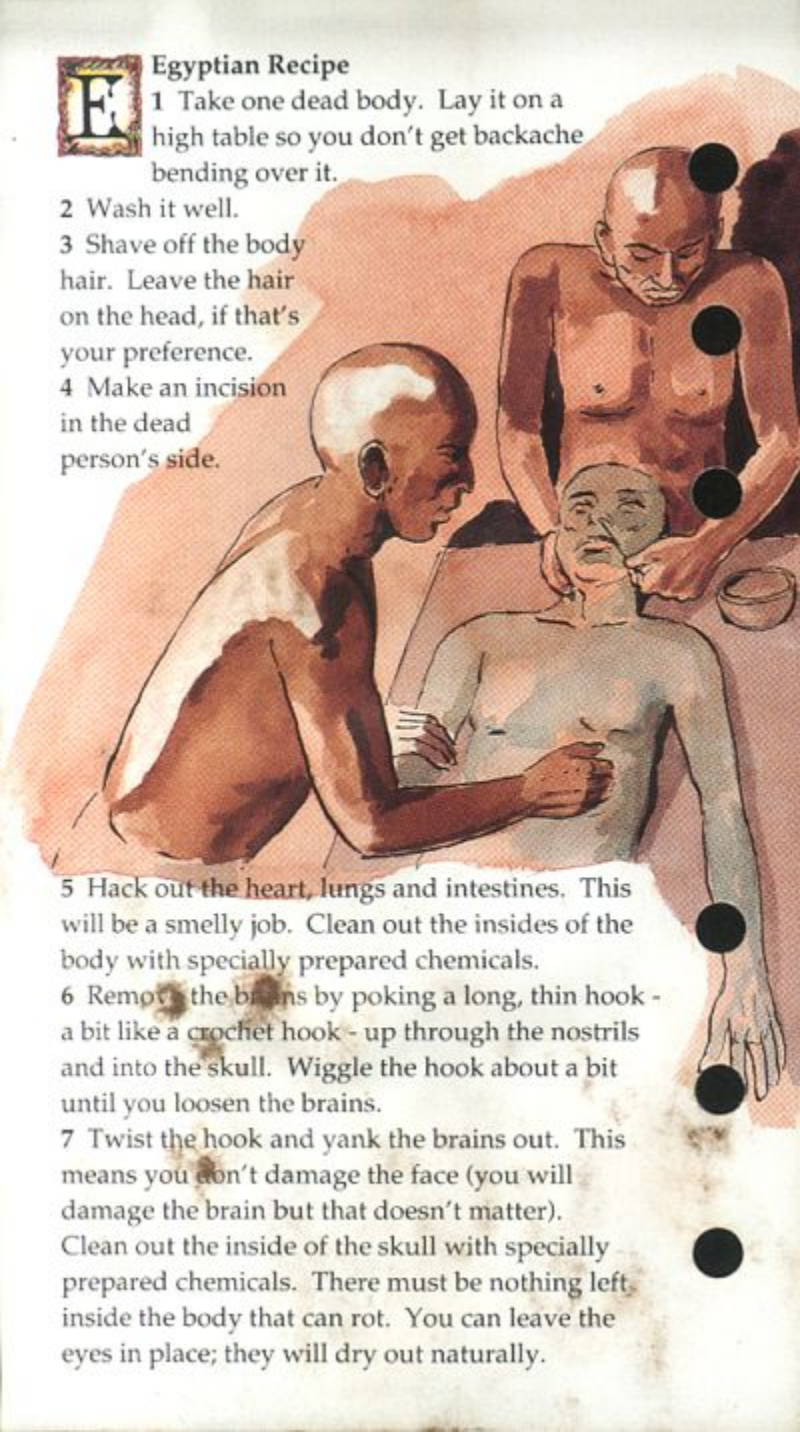
Back in the days of King Henry VIII, death by decapitation (or beheading) was all too common. Sir Thomas More got even worse treatment. His head was parboiled and stuck for three months on a pole on London Bridge before his grieving daughter was allowed to bury it decently.

Danger on the Dance floor

At Clacton-on-Sea, holiday-makers sometimes got a fright if they took to the dance floor at Butlin's. In the old ballroom at this holiday resort, the ghost of a soldier would appear. It seems he was killed in a fight there. Perhaps he came back for the last waltz?

THE DUNWICH HORROR

On a bleak night in January, in the year 1326, a terrible storm pounded the Norman city of Dunwich in East Anglia. The wild wind and the ferocious North Sea waves threw up a shingle bank which blocked the harbour entrance. This freak of nature was to submerge Dunwich, its people and its buildings, forever beneath the sea. The next day, when the wind calmed and the tide ebbed, Dunwich city was nowhere to be seen. In that one violent night, nine churches and 5,000 inhabitants had perished. No wonder the pitiful toll of the bells from the lost churches is sometimes heard ringing on stormy nights.



Egyptian Recipe

1 Take one dead body. Lay it on a high table so you don't get backache bending over it.

2 Wash it well.

3 Shave off the body hair. Leave the hair on the head, if that's your preference.

4 Make an incision in the dead person's side.

5 Hack out the heart, lungs and intestines. This will be a smelly job. Clean out the insides of the body with specially prepared chemicals.

6 Remove the brains by poking a long, thin hook - a bit like a crochet hook - up through the nostrils and into the skull. Wiggle the hook about a bit until you loosen the brains.

7 Twist the hook and yank the brains out. This means you don't damage the face (you will damage the brain but that doesn't matter). Clean out the inside of the skull with specially prepared chemicals. There must be nothing left inside the body that can rot. You can leave the eyes in place; they will dry out naturally.

8 Pop the stomach, brains, lungs and intestines into special Canopic jars. Seal the jars. Keep the heart separate - you will need it later.

9 Put the body in a bath of natron (a salt made of sodium and carbon). Leave for at least 40 days.

10 Remove the body from the natron and wash it again.

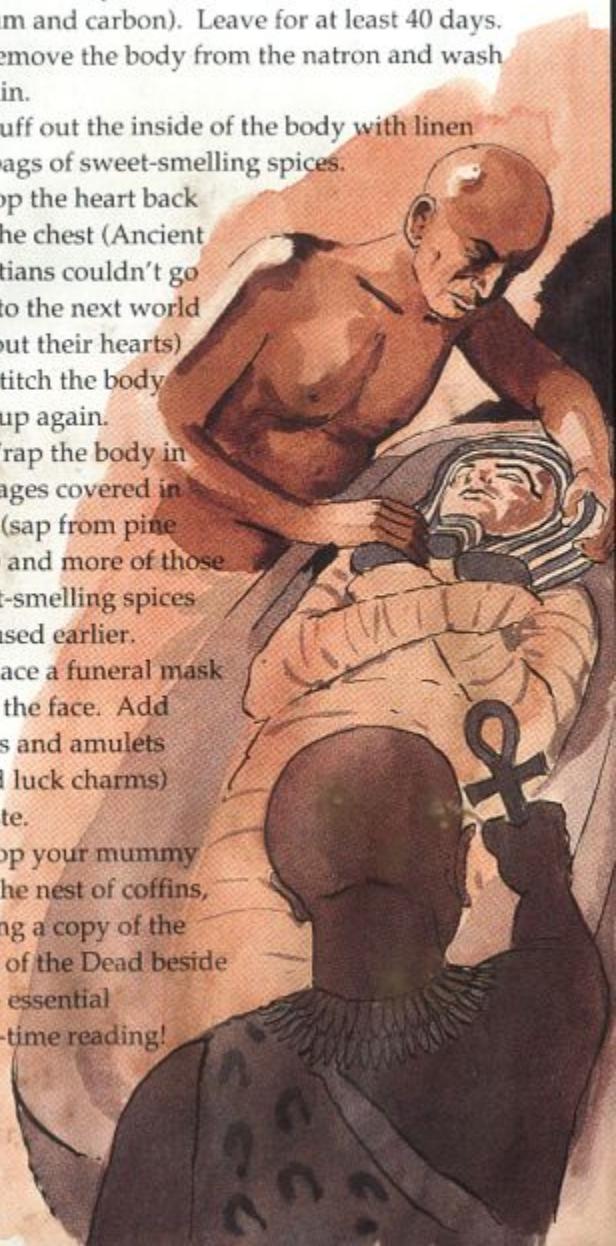
11 Fluff out the inside of the body with linen and bags of sweet-smelling spices.

12 Pop the heart back into the chest (Ancient Egyptians couldn't go on into the next world without their hearts) and stitch the body back up again.

13 Wrap the body in bandages covered in resin (sap from pine trees) and more of those sweet-smelling spices you used earlier.

14 Place a funeral mask over the face. Add jewels and amulets (good luck charms) to taste.

15 Pop your mummy into the nest of coffins, placing a copy of the Book of the Dead beside him - essential dead-time reading!

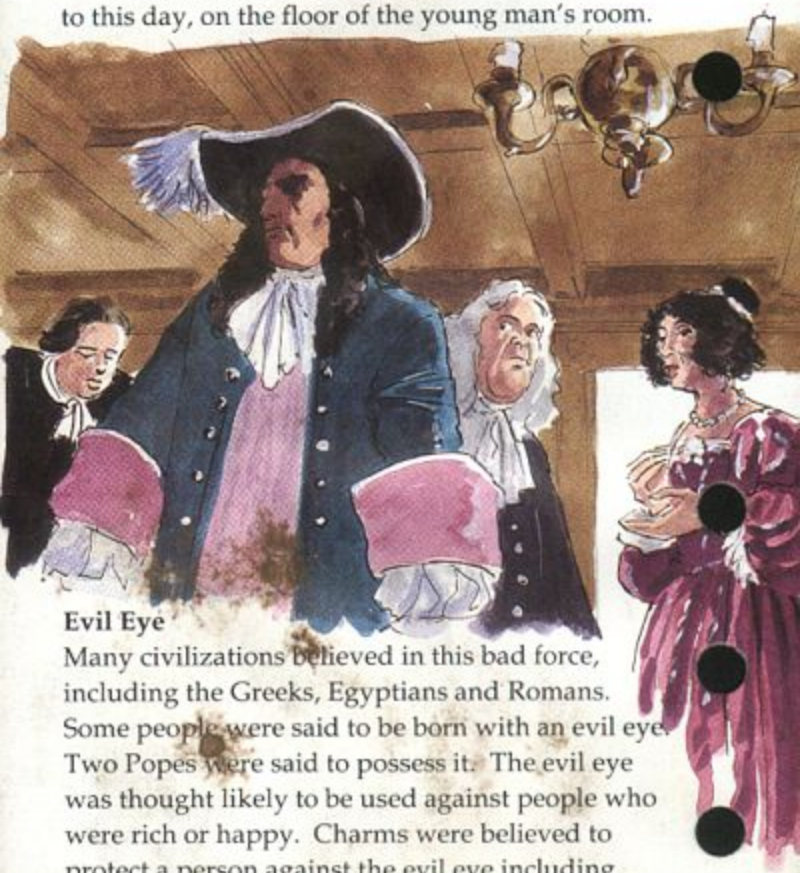


Eerie Entry

In 1684, the young heir of a grand household in the north of England was seen to ride up to the house. Without a word, he strode past the family, up the stairs and into his bedroom. He was never seen again.

Sadly, his family learned he had been murdered in a distant town, at the exact time of his brief appearance in the family home.

They say a single bloody footprint can be seen to this day, on the floor of the young man's room.



Evil Eye

Many civilizations believed in this bad force, including the Greeks, Egyptians and Romans. Some people were said to be born with an evil eye. Two Popes were said to possess it. The evil eye was thought likely to be used against people who were rich or happy. Charms were believed to protect a person against the evil eye including eyes, bells, brass, red ribbons, garlic and shamrocks.

FATE WORSE THAN DEATH

A grisly fate was suffered by a monk at Waverley Abbey, many moons ago. In the cruellest fashion of the times, he was hung, drawn and quartered. (No-one, not even witches, survived this!) Locals say they see the monk wandering about distractedly, as though he were searching for something. Probably the various missing parts of his body!

FRANCIS BACON

In London, Pond Square boasts a most unusual and rather comical ghost. That of a featherless chicken! The story goes that here, Francis Bacon, then Chancellor of England, conducted an important experiment. He had observed how quickly food decomposes. It could not be stored safely in 1600.

Bacon had the clever hunch that freezing might be a safe method of storing food. He decided to try to deep-freeze the very first chicken. Mrs Bacon killed, plucked and prepared the immortal chicken, then the Chancellor set about to 'stuff it' with snow. The experiment was a success. Sadly, Mr Bacon was unable to enjoy the frozen chicken, nor the credit he deserves. He had caught a chill in the snow, capering about after chickens. It killed him three days later.

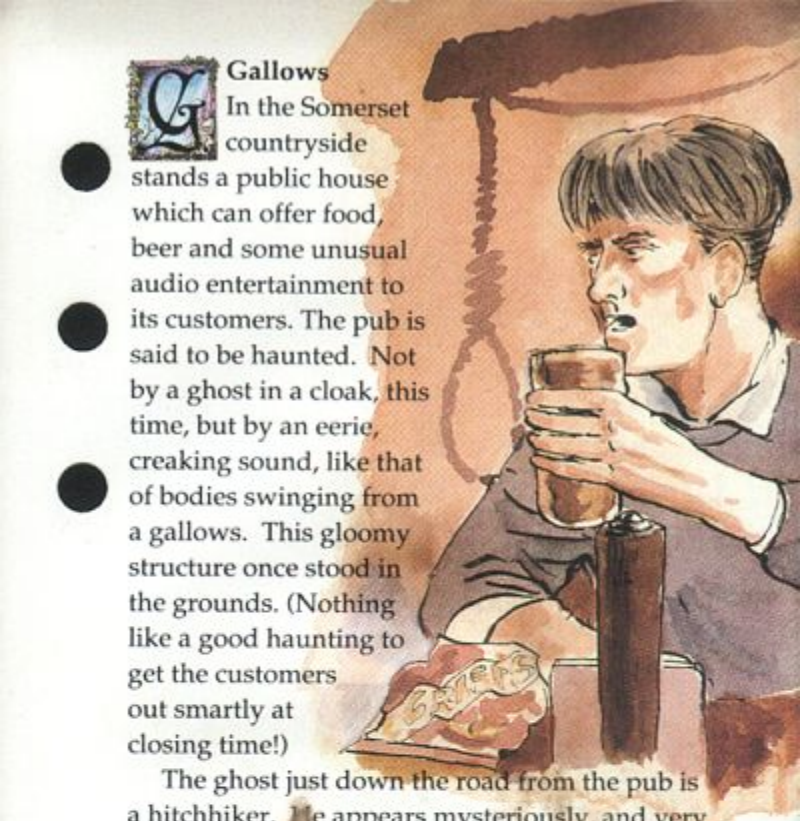
Flesh

During the French Revolution, the skins of guillotined aristocrats were tanned to make leather, and one hide was used to bind the new French constitution.

Frankenstein, Baron

This most famous of monster-makers is the creation of a lady. Authoress Mary Shelley dreamed him up in her first novel, written in 1818.

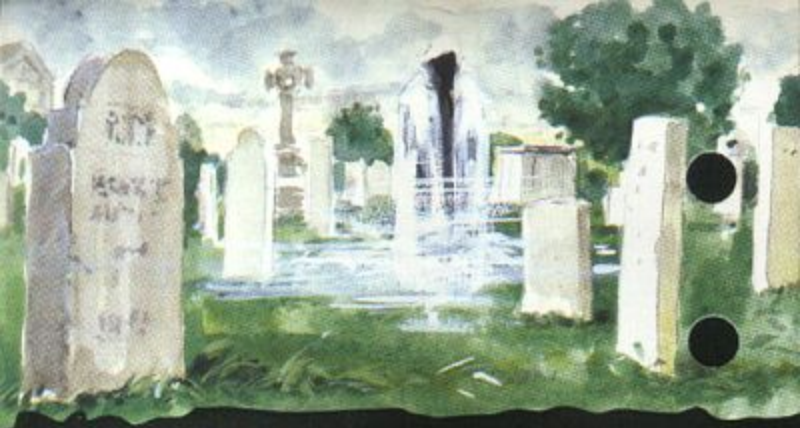
Since then, Frankenstein has become the inspiration of many horror films. The beastly baron is usually portrayed as a bizarre scientist, with a mid-European accent, who beavers away in a dingy laboratory, amid steaming bell-jars, electric coils and ominous-looking vats. Tucked away in a daunting edifice which is the family home, (and an odd family they seem to be!), his brilliant mind plots to re-create life. The author seems to suggest that brilliance is just a nudge away from bonkers, as the barmy baron begins some ghoulish experiments. Eventually, a slave-cum-monster comes to life in his laboratory. Then the baron has a few problems, but we don't want to spoil the story for you. As in most good stories, evil is overpowered by good, and Frankenstein's monster finally destroys his master.



Gallows

In the Somerset countryside stands a public house which can offer food, beer and some unusual audio entertainment to its customers. The pub is said to be haunted. Not by a ghost in a cloak, this time, but by an eerie, creaking sound, like that of bodies swinging from a gallows. This gloomy structure once stood in the grounds. (Nothing like a good haunting to get the customers out smartly at closing time!)

The ghost just down the road from the pub is a hitchhiker. He appears mysteriously, and very unnervingly, in the back seat of the car as drivers go along. Imagine the fright *that* would give your mum or dad!



GHOST HUNTERS

Borley Rectory was said to be the most haunted place in England. Its twelve ghosts decamped when the house was demolished in 1944, but since then, ghostly music and a phantom nun have been reported in the churchyard.

Ghost hunters used 3 basic techniques in their investigations at the old rectory. They relied on descriptions, experimentation and detection. They interviewed witnesses of hauntings, used a person called a psychic to find out more about the ghost and recorded all evidence.

These ghost hunters had a kit which included:
felt overshoes, steel tape measures, thermometer, still camera, remote control movie camera, fingerprinting equipment, telescope, portable telephone.

Nowadays, the floor plan of the house is studied where hauntings are reported; regular photographs with infrared film are taken; a tape recorder is used for recording noises and heat sensors and Geiger counters also play a part.

Grave Gift

When the poet Rossetti's wife died, he buried her with a book in which he had written all his poems. Seven years later, he changed his mind and decided he'd like them back. The grave was opened and the poems removed and disinfected. They were later published to general acclaim.

Ghost Train

If you think ghost trains only run at fairgrounds, some of the locals in Washford will tell you different! Once there was an old mine near the village. A narrow railway served to carry tools, men and minerals to and from the mine.

When the mine was closed down, back in 1917, the old mine railway track was never used again. Yet several people living in Washford have reported hearing the old train on the disused track, climbing up the steep valley. A dip into the record books shows there was once a disaster on that railway line. Many miners died in the accident. Could the sounds echo that sad event? No-one can explain it. Spooky!

HAIRY HANDS

Lorry drivers may get an awful fright on the A38 road in England, at night! Several drivers have reported seeing a large pair of hairy hands clawing at their windscreens. Aaah!

Some miles away in the same county, some evil hairy hands were also blamed by motorists for causing a number of unlikely motorbike accidents.

Such a story must prompt a few questions. To begin with, whose hands are these, which take a delight in tipping people from their motorbikes, and making big, macho lorry drivers quake in their fluffy seats?

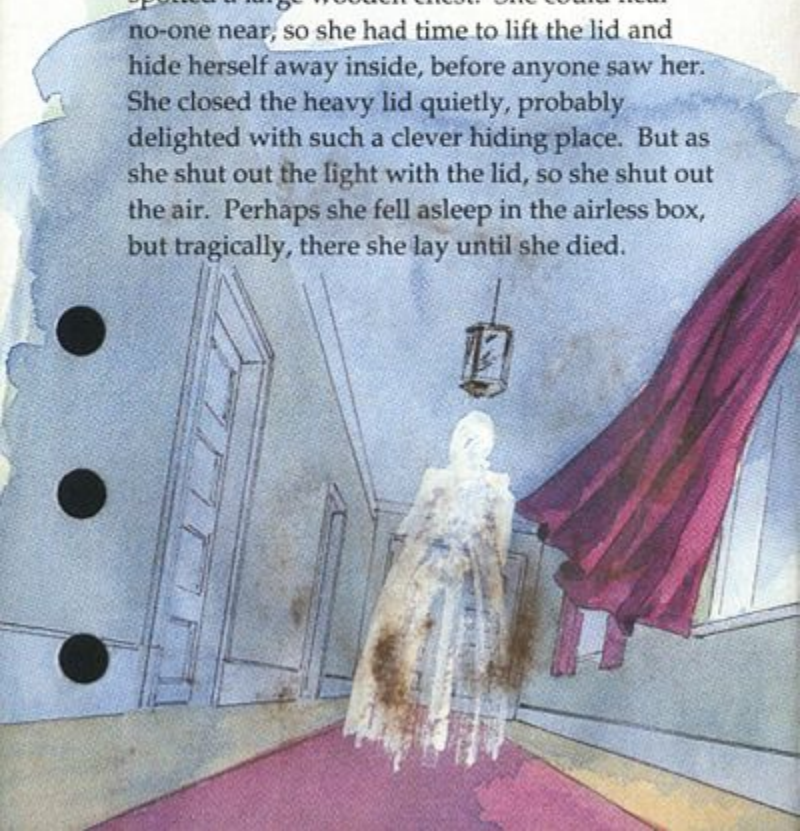
Or maybe the hands don't all belong to the same hairy source? Could there be a pair?

Then again, perhaps we'd rather not know!

The Haunted House

An unsavoury character haunts a house in Hampshire. Children in the house say the presence of this little green man brings a feeling of threatening evil. (He can only be seen by children, so perhaps he's really a coward.)

At the same unfortunate house stalks the White Lady. (We don't think she's stalking the little green man. It's a big house, so the ghosts can all do their own thing.) The Lady is the ghost of a young bride, a romantic figure in a tragic story. It is said that at Christmas, she and her husband played a game of hide-and-seek about the great house. Finding herself in a quiet corridor, she spotted a large wooden chest. She could hear no-one near, so she had time to lift the lid and hide herself away inside, before anyone saw her. She closed the heavy lid quietly, probably delighted with such a clever hiding place. But as she shut out the light with the lid, so she shut out the air. Perhaps she fell asleep in the airless box, but tragically, there she lay until she died.



I'll Call You

Evangelist, Aimee Semple McPherson, was buried with a telephone in her coffin so that she could contact the living world. After seven years without a call from her, the line was disconnected.

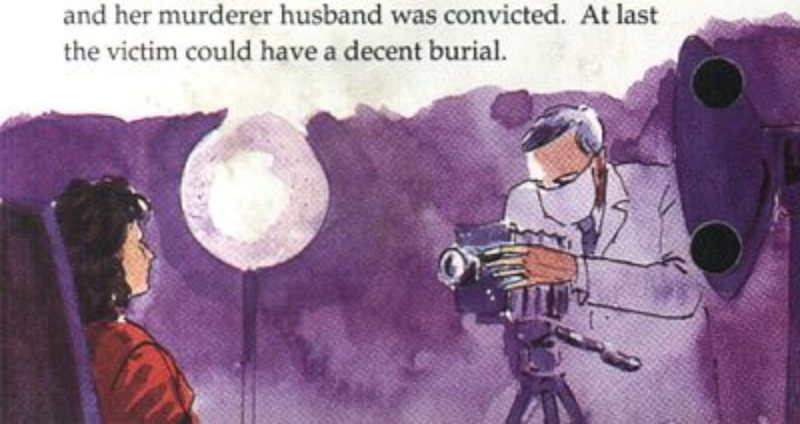
Identity Unknown

Back in 1934, a very grisly murder case began in Australia. The corpse of a young woman was found hidden in a drain. She had been murdered; first cruelly beaten and then shot. Her murderer had tried to dispose of the body by burning it.

Strangely, no-one seemed to know who the body belonged to. A few names were suggested, but there was no real evidence, so the body was preserved in formalin (like pickling vinegar) at Sydney University's pathology lab.

Ten years later, the body was still unidentified. The new Commissioner of Police decided to re-open investigations. The wrinkled body was taken out of the preserving tank and someone had the further ghastly task of putting make-up on the face and giving the body a new hair-do. Then a new photograph was taken, to help police enquiries.

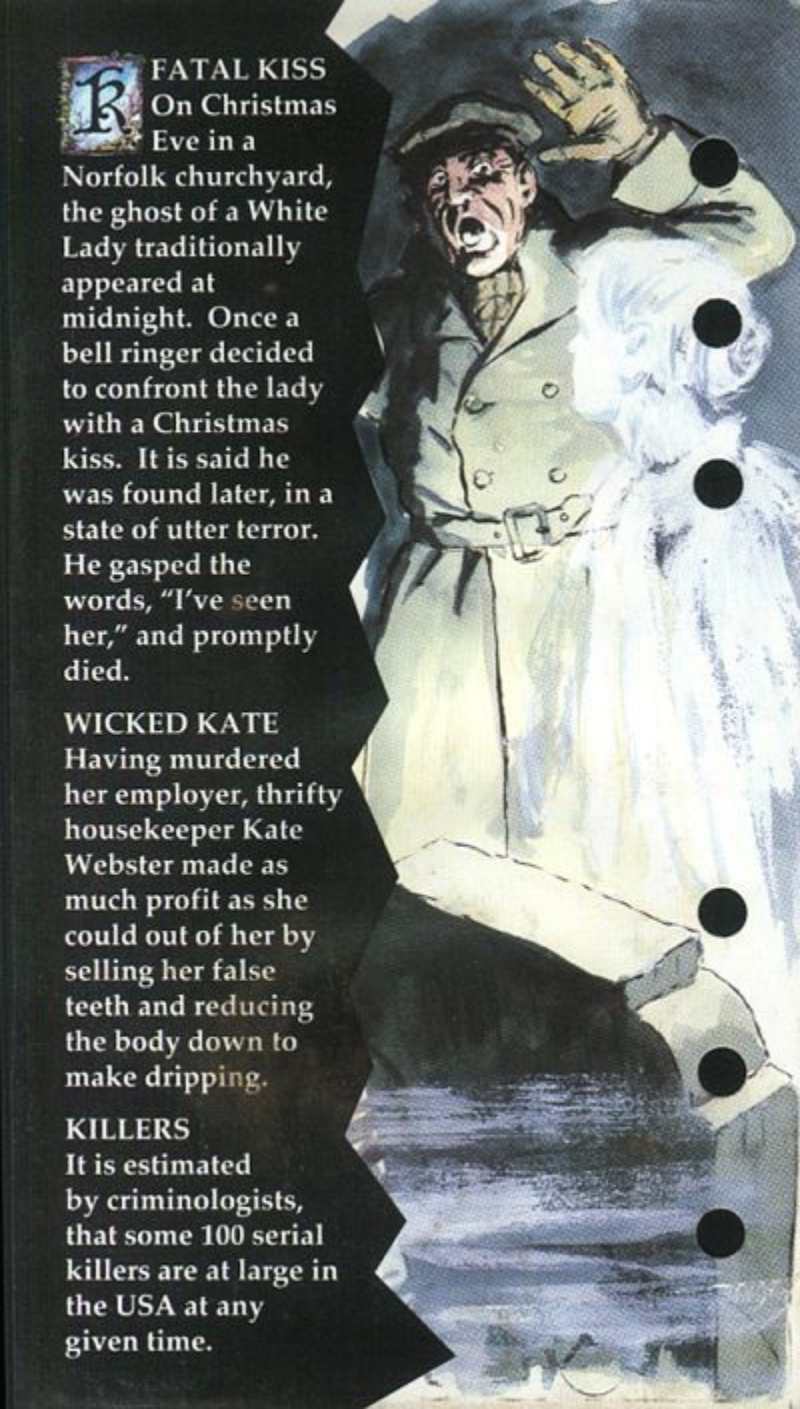
Sure enough, the poor girl was finally identified and her murderer husband was convicted. At last the victim could have a decent burial.



Jack the Ripper
Read about this infamous villain in 'Real Life'.

John the Jibber
A true smugglers' tale - see 'Real Life'.

Juggernaut
Somewhere in the heart of rural Warwickshire, England, a fast road bisects a heathland. The old dual carriageway here snakes around a very dangerous bend. It has become an infamous stretch of road for accidents. Perhaps this is the origin of a ghostly rumour connected with this piece of road? Drivers have reported meeting a phantom lorry, head on, hurtling towards their car. The frightening juggernaut then disappears, at the very moment a real crash takes place. Double scary!



FATAL KISS
On Christmas Eve in a Norfolk churchyard, the ghost of a White Lady traditionally appeared at midnight. Once a bell ringer decided to confront the lady with a Christmas kiss. It is said he was found later, in a state of utter terror. He gasped the words, "I've seen her," and promptly died.

WICKED KATE
Having murdered her employer, thrifty housekeeper Kate Webster made as much profit as she could out of her by selling her false teeth and reducing the body down to make dripping.

KILLERS
It is estimated by criminologists, that some 100 serial killers are at large in the USA at any given time.

Lost without trace

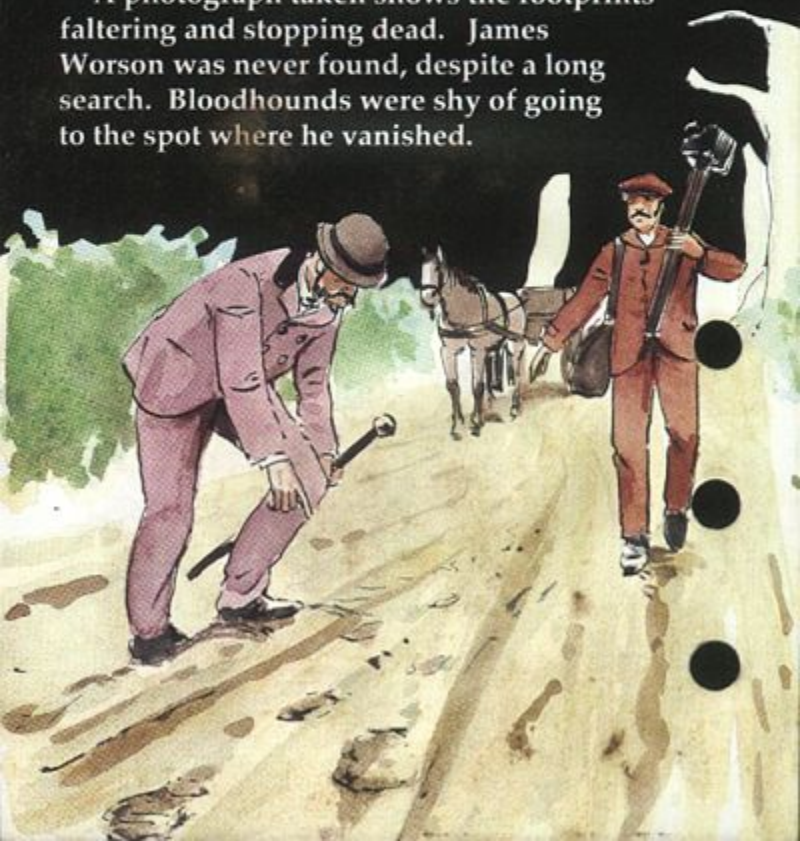
In 1975, a couple were driving to New York. It was snowing heavily. The husband decided to get out and scrape the front window. His wife stepped round to the back of the car, cloth in hand, to clear the rear. That was the last anyone ever saw of her.

In 1975, an ordinary working man from Newmarket became the focus of an unsolved mystery. He was watching television when his wife went to bed that evening, saying he'd be up later. After some hours, she came downstairs to see where he was. The television remained on, but there was no sign of her husband. A search was made for several days, but no-one ever saw the man again.

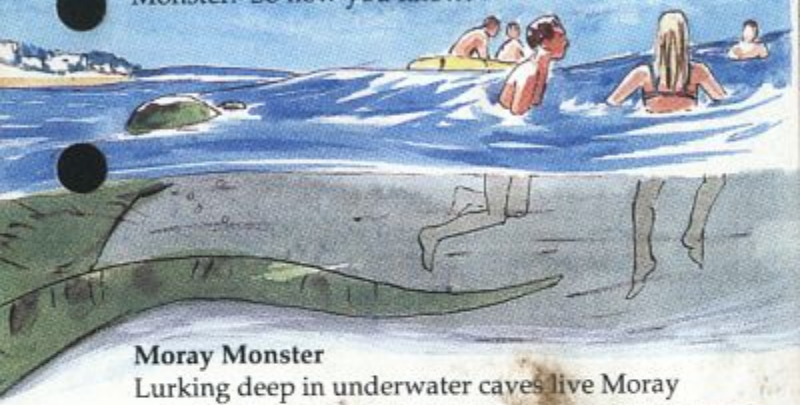
In 1966, the Scottish Daily Express reported the case of a 19 year old man who had simply vanished. It was New Year's Eve and the man and 2 of his friends were walking down a road in Glasgow making their way towards a party. The man, who had been walking between his two friends, just disappeared, never to be seen by his friends again.

A baffling case happened in 1873 - the case of "marathon man" James Worson. He had accepted a challenge to run 20 miles from Leamington to Coventry. He started out with two friends trotting behind him in a horse-drawn gig. One carried his camera, which proved useful later. About a quarter of the way to Coventry, Mr Worson was running well. He chatted over his shoulder as he ran. He was never out of sight. Then, on a dirt road, he suddenly seemed to stumble. He lurched forward and screamed horribly. Yet his body never struck the ground - he vanished in mid fall.

A photograph taken shows the footprints faltering and stopping dead. James Worson was never found, despite a long search. Bloodhounds were shy of going to the spot where he vanished.



Monsters in Cornwall?
Everyone's heard of the Loch Ness Monster, but what makes you think Scotland has the only living monster? In 1976, in Falmouth Bay, in Cornwall, a Morgawr was seen. Not just once, but many times! What's a Morgawr? Oh, well, it's a Cornish Loch Ness Monster. So now you know!



Moray Monster
Lurking deep in underwater caves live Moray eels. Unlike their harmless eel relatives, Moray eels are savage, especially if disturbed by an unsuspecting diver. Their small, mean eyes, crumpled snout and gaping, ugly mouth give this creature a hideous face.

The Moray is as fearful as he looks - his ragged, needle-sharp, spiky teeth can tear through human flesh with ease!

Marie Celeste - ghostship. See 'Real Life'.

Martha Merek - the money mad murderer. See 'Real Life'.

No Pity
In 19th century Britain, anyone who attempted suicide but failed was hanged.

Cruel Nature
From time to time, nature creates cruel accidents at birth. In earlier days, the poor victims of these 'mutations' were labelled freaks, and many had to earn their living as side-show exhibits in travelling circuses, mocked and stared at by everyone. For some it was even worse.

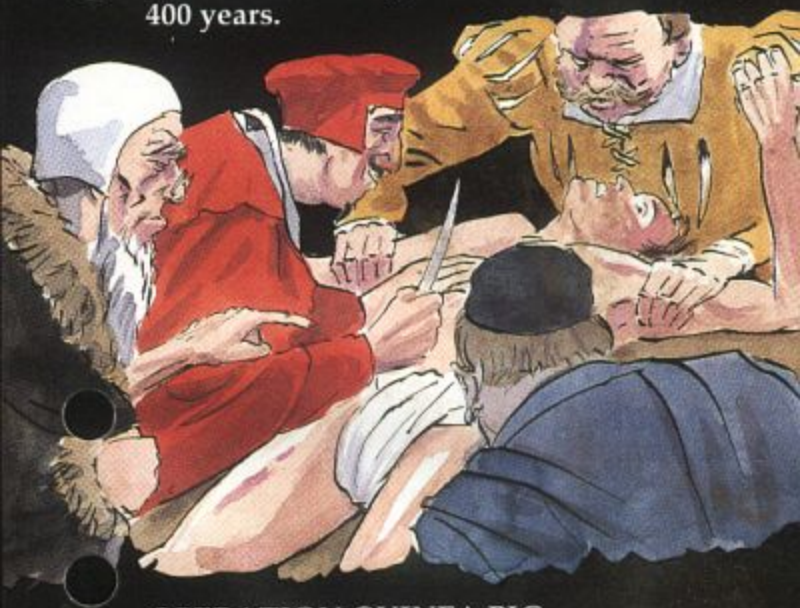
The true story of rich Englishman, Edward Mordake, is a haunting one. Although Edward was heir to a great fortune, he never claimed it. He was born with a unique deformity. Handsome and intelligent, Edward was blighted with a second face, which grew from the back of his own skull. This face was that of a beautiful young girl. Doctors presumed it must have belonged to his unborn twin sister.

The face terrified Edward. It would leer and smile when he cried. He told his doctors that the face taunted him endlessly with evil thoughts and would surely destroy him. Edward hid himself away, seeing no-one but closest family and doctors. Such was his misery, he poisoned himself, to escape the 'demon face'.

ON PAIN OF DEATH - DON'T TOUCH!

Imagine one of those creepy medieval halls, with the portraits on the cold stone walls, with eyes that follow you round the room. You can? Then you're in the right place, only this is worse! In Breamore House hangs the painting of a woman who lived long ago, late in the 1500s. No human may touch the painting, or they will meet with death that very day.

Hardly surprising, the picture has hung, untouched, fading and undusted, for nearly 400 years.



OPERATION GUINEA PIG

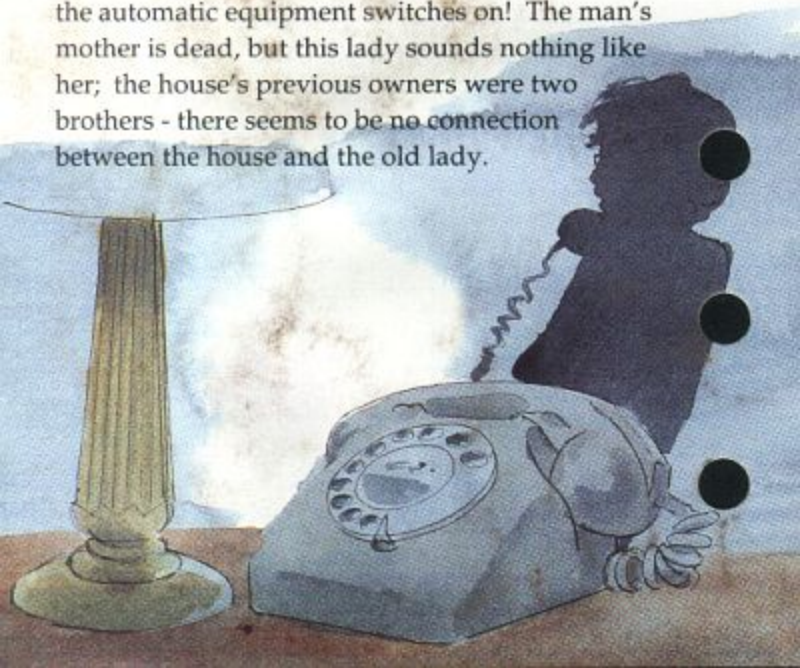
A fifteenth century criminal was so terrified by his death sentence that he agreed to be one of the first medical guinea pigs. He underwent an agonising and dangerous operation, was sewn up - and survived to receive a pardon.

Ocean Terror

It isn't just sharks that strike fear in many people. The stonefish is feared around the world's oceans. Not for its size, it won't eat you, but it is the most poisonous of all fish. Worse, it conceals itself with a camouflage, to look like rocks and seaweed. One step on the stonefish, and thirteen spines along its back inject the lethal poison.

Old Lady

Whenever a man and his wife leave their home, the voice of an old lady (about 70 years old, they think) answers the 'phone. She will only say that no-one is at home, and will they please 'phone back later. The couple have 'phoned her up and asked her to go away, but they get the same message. The husband has installed an answerphone, but to no avail - the old lady still gets to the receiver before the machine takes over, even though it is set to allow only two rings before the automatic equipment switches on! The man's mother is dead, but this lady sounds nothing like her; the house's previous owners were two brothers - there seems to be no connection between the house and the old lady.



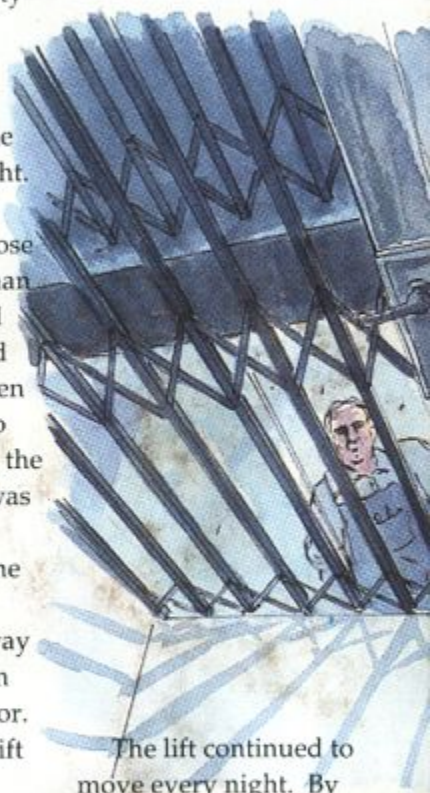
Phantoms at the Palace

The old Palace Hotel in Lancashire was to be pulled down, and a team of ten workmen moved into the empty rooms. They began demolition work during the day, sleeping in one of the old bedrooms at night.

The men were woken by voices, those of a man and a woman arguing. Voices and footsteps were heard each night, so the men chased from room to empty room, to find the speakers but there was no-one to be seen.

Strangest of all, the great, old, 4-ton lift began to heave its way down the shaft, from the deserted 2nd floor. The men heard the lift stop at the 1st floor, and the doors open. Then, the doors closed and the lift returned slowly to the 2nd floor.

No electricity was connected to the old hotel. When the workmen heard the lift moving again, they rushed out and saw it arrive at the 1st floor. It carried no passengers.



The lift continued to move every night. By now, the workmen were so frightened, they packed their bags and found rooms at another hotel, returning only to work in daylight.

The electricity board came to study the lift. Impossible, they reported, there's no electricity. Then they too saw the lift travelling slowly between floors. The inspector hid the manual winch handle, suspecting it must be a trick. He used a crowbar to jam the lift, but it travelled past him, without faltering.

Despite marking the cables, these showed no sign of recent use, yet a number of other people had now seen the lift in motion.

Finally, the workmen decided to stop the lift for good. The foreman cut the thick wire cables at the top of the shaft. The lift remained halfway up the shaft. Then he cut the counterbalance cables. Still the lift did not budge. Lastly, he smashed the guidelines at the side of the lift cage. It plummeted to the bottom of the shaft, embedding itself deep into the cellar.

On delving into the history of the Palace, it was discovered that the hotel had been built back-to-front. The architect who designed it had, sadly, committed suicide by throwing himself off the top landing. It was said his body landed just where the lift stood.

Pickled

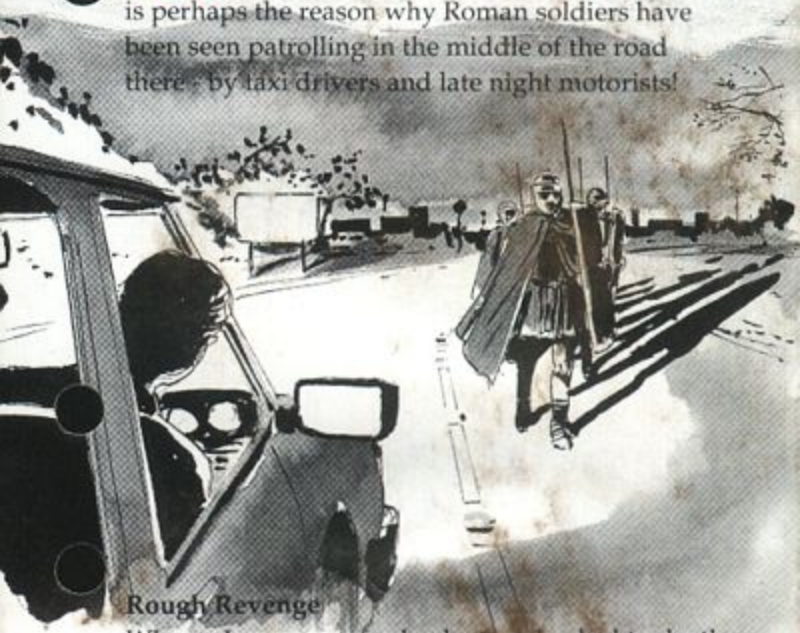
Nelson's body was preserved in a barrel of rum for the journey back to England from the battle of Trafalgar.

Queer Bequest
When the mistress of French novelist Eugene Sue died, she willed him to use her skin to bind a book. He did.

Quote by the famous author, G.K. Chesterton -
I don't believe in ghosts, but they scare me to death.

Rasputin - the monk who would not die.
See 'Real Life'.

Roman Sentries
Mersea island, near Colchester, has links with England's ancient Roman past, which is perhaps the reason why Roman soldiers have been seen patrolling in the middle of the road there - by taxi drivers and late night motorists!

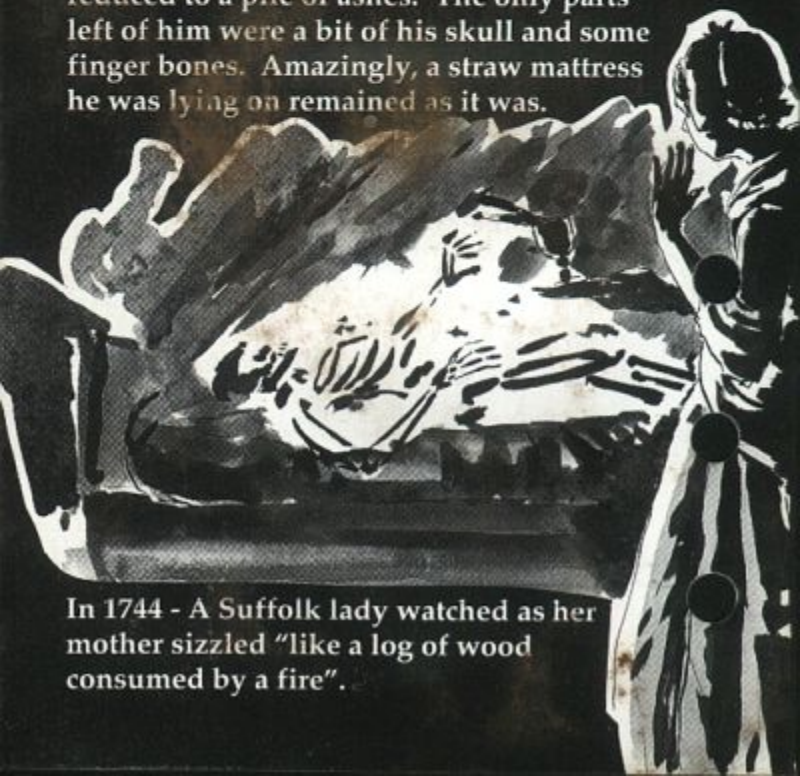


Rough Revenge
When a Japanese gang leader was hacked to death in 1978, his assailants had to find a way of disposing of his fingerprints. They chopped off his hands and boiled them up to make soup, which they sold at a roadside stall.

SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION

This is a horrific phenomena, as yet to be explained. Bodies suddenly and unexpectedly burst into flames. The heat produced is said to be more than 2000 degrees Fahrenheit, more than twenty times the normal heat a body generates. Strangely this ferocious fire doesn't affect objects around the body, which unfortunately is left as a pile of ashes. People aged only 4 months to 114 years have been killed in this way.

The first recorded case of Spontaneous Human Combustion was in 1673 when an unfortunate man living in Paris was reduced to a pile of ashes. The only parts left of him were a bit of his skull and some finger bones. Amazingly, a straw mattress he was lying on remained as it was.



In 1744 - A Suffolk lady watched as her mother sizzled "like a log of wood consumed by a fire".

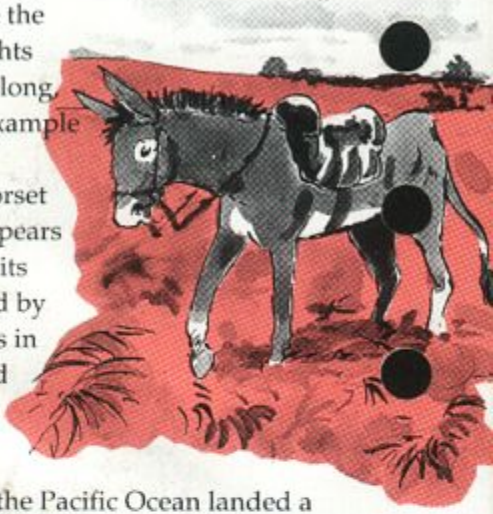
In Essex, England, a woman was doing a tango when she suddenly erupted into a ball of fire in front of spectators. Horrifyingly, she was reduced to ashes, although her dress was not even scorched.

In 1938, in a dance hall crowded with onlookers, a 22 year-old woman spontaneously combusted whilst waltzing with her fiancé. At around midnight, her dress suddenly burst into flames. She was reduced to little more than a charred skeleton. Statements from eye-witnesses claim that it was the lady, not her dress, that was on fire. In many cases of Spontaneous Human Combustion, victims have incinerated inside undamaged clothing.

In Pennsylvania, in 1966, a doctor became victim to Spontaneous Human Combustion. His whole body burnt, apart from half a leg, although flammable objects around him showed no damage. The rubber feet of his walking frame, and paint on a bathtub near him, remained untouched by fire.

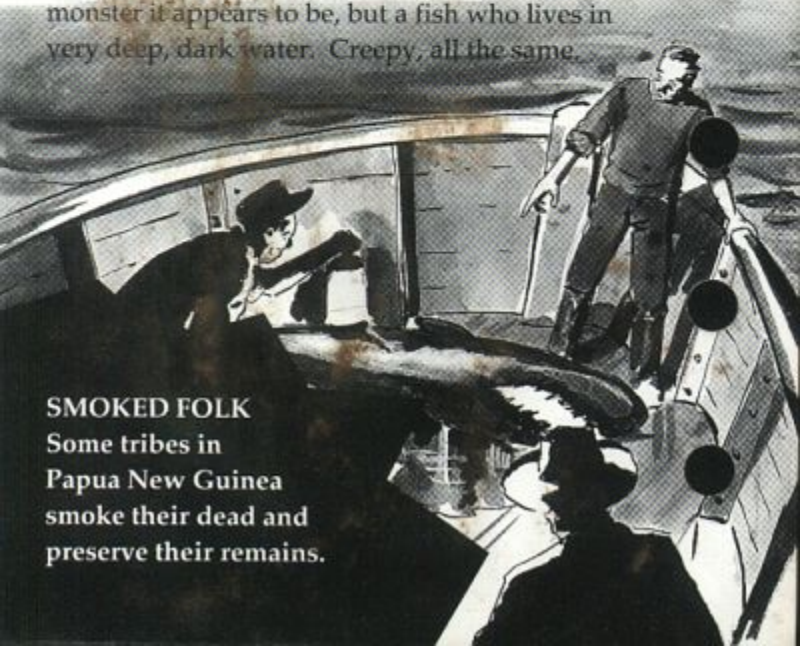
Sad Donkey

Ghosts, or whatever they are, don't always take the form of headless knights and sobbing ladies in long, floaty dresses. One example is the apparition of a white donkey on a Dorset heath. Old Eeyore appears on the anniversary of its master's death, caused by highwaymen, perhaps in search of its long-dead owner. Aah.



Shark Monster

In 1976, fishermen in the Pacific Ocean landed a strange shark. Aboard the deck of the fishing boat, the shark's monstrous mouth glowed in the dark. No-one had ever seen this creature before, and nicknamed it Megamouth. In fact, it isn't the monster it appears to be, but a fish who lives in very deep, dark water. Creepy, all the same.



SMOKED FOLK

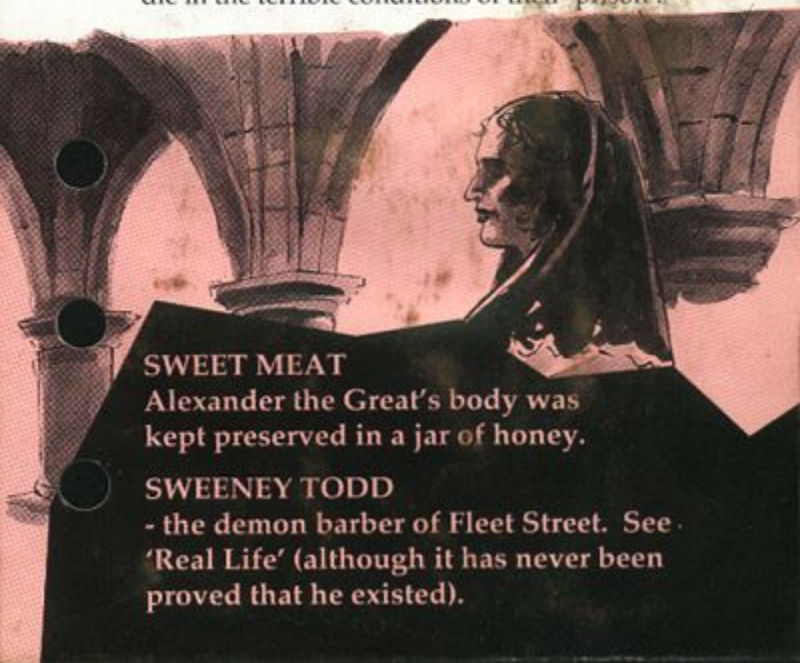
Some tribes in Papua New Guinea smoke their dead and preserve their remains.

Scary Dragon

If you think dragons don't exist, think again. The Komodo dragon lives in South-East Asia. These giant lizards are around three metres long, big enough to hunt and kill wild pigs and deer. They've got all the frightening equipment of a dragon too, with long, powerful claws and vicious teeth. We don't *think* they spit fire, though.

Spanish Maid

Many ghost stories have their origins in historical fact. Whether you believe in ghosts or you don't, it's easy to understand how most of these legends ever got started. One sad tale is that of a Spanish girl. Her ghost is said to haunt an abbey in the south of England. Back in 1588, she was one of 396 Spaniards arrested from a ship at the time of the famous Armada. They were locked into a barn on the abbey site, and many, including the poor girl, were left to die in the terrible conditions of their 'prison'.



SWEET MEAT
Alexander the Great's body was kept preserved in a jar of honey.

SWEENEY TODD
- the demon barber of Fleet Street. See 'Real Life' (although it has never been proved that he existed).

The Bloody Tower

When a prisoner was beheaded in the terrible Tower of London, the body was taken away for burial with the head tucked tidily under the arm. This accounts for the many stories of phantoms cradling their severed heads.

Tramps

Two American tramps died in 1903, apparently of cleanliness. They were given their first bath for twenty years and scrubbed down with a broom, an experience which proved too much for them.

Tree Treason

Anyone who chopped down a hazel or apple tree in ancient Ireland was sentenced to death, as these trees were considered sacred.

UPSIDE DOWN BURIAL

Mr Peter Labellaire was so disenchanted with the topsy-turvy world that he asked to be buried head downwards to see if he could make more sense of things.

VST VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE

It was the time of Prohibition in the USA. The American government had outlawed alcohol and smugglers were busy running black market liquor across the state frontiers and into the unlicensed 'Speak Easy' bars downtown.

This was Mafia business, where Italian and Irish gangsters shot it out with the cops, and, when someone got too greedy, rival gangs shot it out between themselves. Brutal times.

Al Capone was one of the brutal gang leaders. He wanted revenge on his gang rival, 'Bugsy' Moran. A telephone call was made to Moran, telling him that a shipment of bootleg whisky was waiting to be delivered to his warehouse. An appointment was made there for 10.30 am on February 14, Valentine's Day. While seven of Moran's men waited in the warehouse, a police car pulled up outside. Two uniformed police and three plain clothes 'officers' lined Moran's men against the wall. With machine guns, they opened fire on the seven, spraying their bodies, head to chest, with bullets. The seven men dropped in a pool of their own blood.

It had been Al Capone's men masquerading as police. Yet George 'Bugsy' Moran himself was lucky - he arrived late for the meeting and escaped certain, violent death.

Vampires

Years ago, vampire folklore thrived in many countries. Most of these legends shared this description of a vampire:

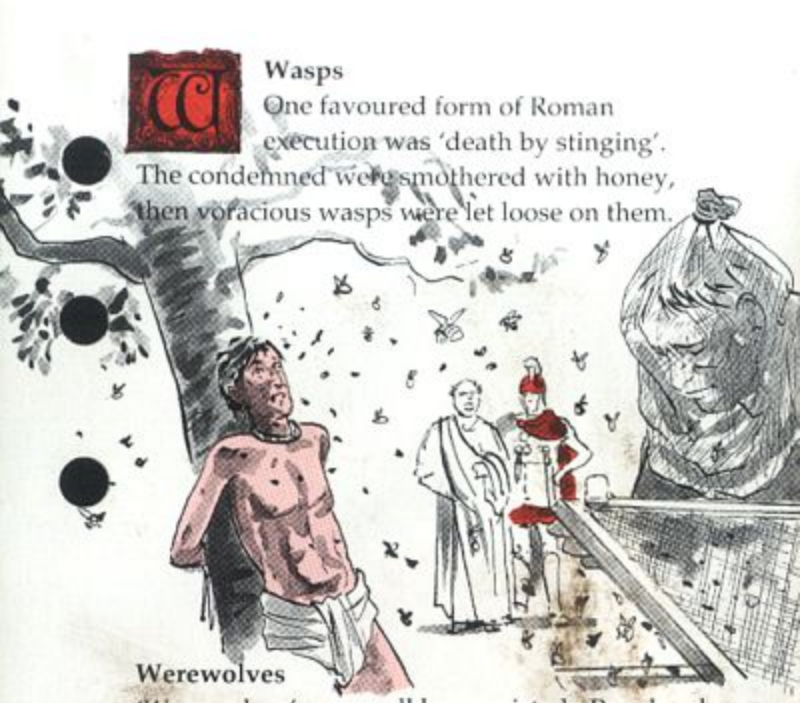
Generally a corpse buried for several weeks but does not decompose. Bushy eyebrows that join together, hairs on palms.

Romanian vampires sometimes have short tails covered with hair that might swell in the heat. Garlic was believed to ward off a vampire attack, but to kill one, a vampire had to be stabbed in the heart with a wooden stake.

In Russia, poppy seeds were put in a coffin for the vampire to count - presumably to stop him getting bored and haunting people!

VULTURES

When the bearded vulture is hungry and can't find any dead prey, it knocks suitable victims off cliffs. The animal world's equivalent of fast food, perhaps?



Wasps

One favoured form of Roman execution was 'death by stinging'. The condemned were smothered with honey, then voracious wasps were let loose on them.

Werewolves

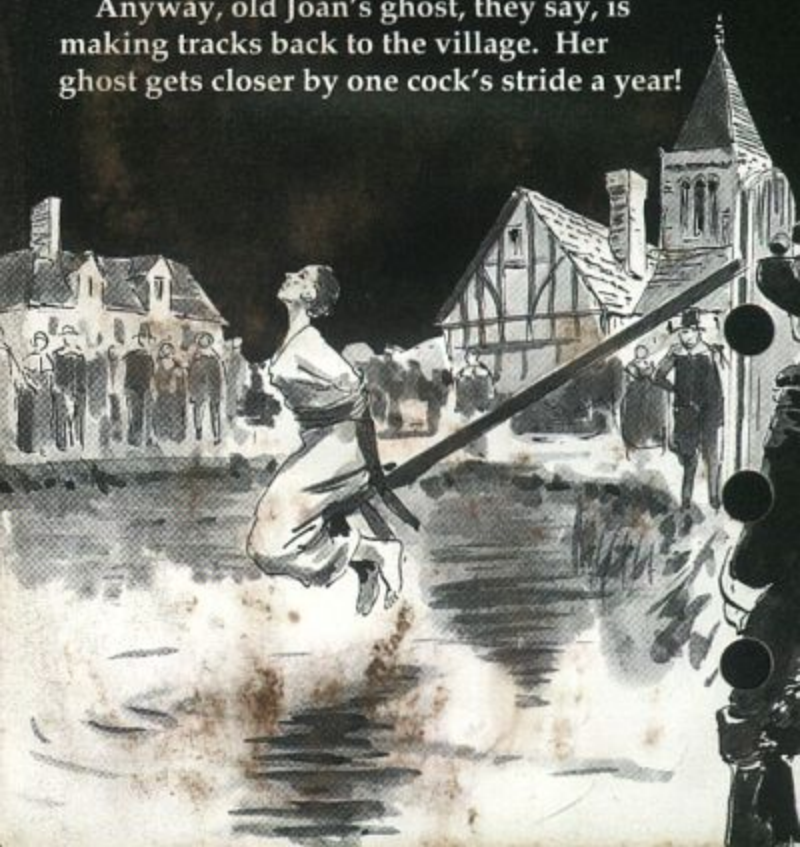
'Werewolves' may well have existed. People who suffer from an agonising condition called *porphtria* become exceptionally sensitive to light, lose their noses and fingers - which gives them an animal look - and become hairy. Their teeth also become prominent. Modern sufferers are treated with a substance extracted from blood; past victims may have tried to relieve their pain by drinking blood.

THE WITCH IS BACK!

Crime is at the foot of many a haunting rumour. Murder, robbery and cruelty often caused deep fear in the local village, and from there the stories grew up. The story of old Joan Carn shows the fear of the village menfolk.

Joan Carn was a well known 'witch' who decided to murder her three husbands. One, two, three. Presumably the villagers didn't like this neighbour so they tossed her into a pond. Splosh! There she drowned, (which is funny because if she'd been a witch, why didn't she change herself into a frog?).

Anyway, old Joan's ghost, they say, is making tracks back to the village. Her ghost gets closer by one cock's stride a year!



Yeti

Also known as sasquatch, Bigfoot, Abominable Snowman, Swamp Ape and Skunk Ape, the Yeti is seen as a large ape-like creature who leaves enormous footprints behind him.

The Abominable Snowman, or Yeti, has been known to Himalayan villagers for at least two centuries. In November, 1951 - British mountaineers discovered a set of enormous footprints, 18,000 feet up in the Himalayan mountains.

In 1970, another trail of prints were found at 13,000 feet in Nepal. The expedition leader saw an ape-like creature.

In July, 1974, a girl tending yaks near an Everest village was thrown roughly to the ground by an enormous ape-like creature, reddish-brown in colour with large eyes and cheek-bones. It made a coughing sound. The Yeti then turned on the yaks - killing one by punching it and twisting another's horns to break its neck. The creature then ate some of its meat and stumbled away.

FUN-FAX HORROR

HORROR ACTIVITIES

PUZZLE-IT

Cornish Monster

Pick out each letter that appears in the grid 3 times, and rearrange them to find a Cornish version of the Loch Ness Monster, found in your A-Z.

M	W	L	G	T	R	O
E	M	W	X	F	R	N
W	S	M	G	O	R	G
A	K	Y	Z	C	L	O
R	H	V	R	Q	I	R
B	X	A	J	P	K	U
Q	Z	T	A	Y	P	D

WHAT AM I?

My 1st is in vampire,
but never in teeth,
My 2nd is in under,
but never beneath.
My 3rd is in screaming,
but never in shrieks,
My 4th is in whisper
but never in squeaks.
My 5th is in spooky,
but never in ghost,
My 6th is in garlic,
but never on toast.
My 7th isn't in look,
but is found in seen.
My whole is orange and lights
up hallowe'en!

The Frankentwins

Which two Frankies are identical?

Hallowe'en Spells

How many words of three or more letters can you make, using only the letters that appear in

HALLOWE'EN?

If you find 10, that's pretty good.
15 is scarily good,
and over 20 is supernaturally-brainy!

Caught in the House of Horrors

Can you divide the haunted house into six rooms, so each contains only one mummy, one vampire bat, one coffin, and one horrified ghost-hunter?

Doctor Who?

Solve the clues and cross out the first letter of each answer from the grid. You should be left with the name of a truly gruesome doctor...

1. James _____ , a famous horror writer.
2. Burial place; Stephen King's pets had one.
3. Skull and _____ , the famous pirate flag.
4. The mysterious triangle where ships disappear.
5. Churchyard where people are buried.
6. You need lots of them to make an Egyptian mummy.
7. Hog-nosed, painted, fruit and vampire are all kinds of what?
8. Dorothy met ones from the East and West in *The Wizard of Oz*.
9. Bigfoot and Sasquatch - alternative names for which Himalayan monster?
10. _____ the Impaler - the original Dracula?
11. Sweeney Todd - the _____ Barber of Fleet Street.
12. 'The Living Dead' - also known as what?
13. The two little _____ , believed to haunt the Tower of London after they were murdered in the 15th century.
14. The male version of a witch.
15. _____ Stoker, author of *Dracula*.
16. Lady Jane _____ , Queen for 9 days, then beheaded.
17. Grand tombs of Egyptian Pharaohs.
18. The watery place where you'd try to find Nessie.

Ye Gods

Fill in the gaps with a word that means the same as the clue. The letters in the skulls should spell out a horrible character - look him up in your A-Z!

1 YELL • 2 SHIVER • 3 CRY
4 LEAP • 5 RUN AWAY • 6 WAIL

Witch Hunt

W	C	T	I	W	I	T	C	W
I	T	I	C	I	C	H	I	C
T	I	W	H	T	W	T	W	T
T	W	I	H	H	I	I	I	I
I	I	T	W	C	T	C	T	W
W	T	I	W	W	T	W	C	C
H	C	T	I	H	I	I	I	T
I	W	I	T	I	W	T	W	I
W	I	T	C	T	W	I	C	W

The word 'witch' appears only once in this grid - can you find it?

It's TERROR Time

There's a whole host of horrors to be found in this grid - hunt for them across, down or diagonally. When you have finished, circle the letters which don't form part of any word - and see if they make you scream!

D	K	C	A	U	L	D	R	O	N	C
O	C	W	E	R	E	W	O	L	F	A
O	I	A	Y	E	T	I	O	A	W	N
L	T	D	E	T	N	U	A	H	A	N
B	S	D	L	M	O	O	N	A	I	I
R	M	A	I	P	C	H	I	L	L	B
H	O	E	V	O	A	A	G	L	A	A
E	O	R	E	I	T	G	H	O	U	L
A	R	D	R	S	B	A	T	W	F	A
D	B	L	N	O	O	M	M	E	A	M
L	A	L	E	N	H	T	A	E	D	E
E	T	E	R	R	O	R	R	N	A	N
S	G	Y	O	S	C	R	E	A	M	T
S	T	U	G	H	O	O	D	O	O	V

cauldron
bat (find it twice!)
broomstick
cat
halloween
moon (that's twice too!)
werewolf
howl
wail
yell
scream
lament
terror
dread
nightmare
fear
horror
chill
death
haunted
ghoul
headless
yeti
cannibal
voodoo
evil eye
poison
gore
blood
guts

I saw HER!

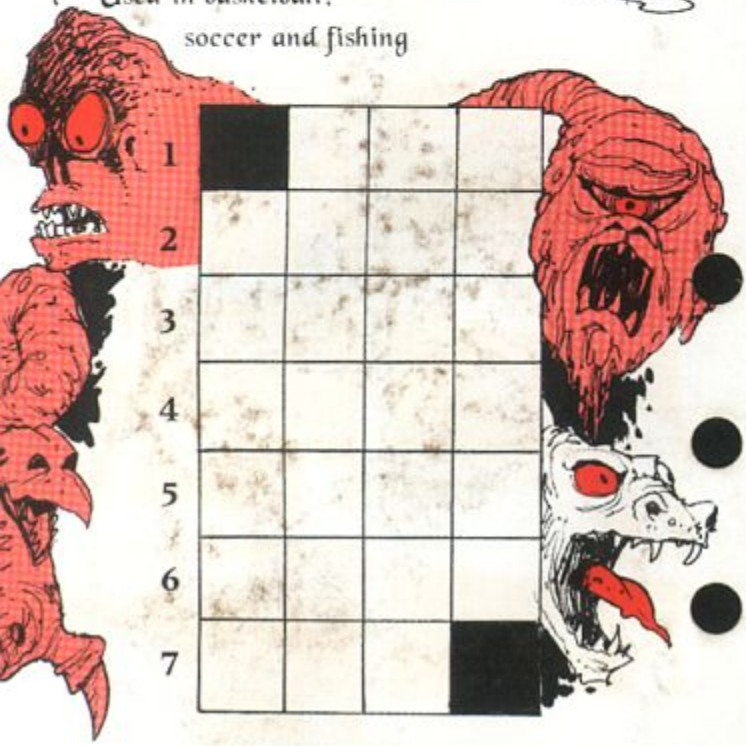
People will always argue that there is a monster in Loch Ness. Assuming that Dr. I. Knowthereis, eminent Nessie-ologist, has got his facts correct, which of the holiday-snaps is not a fake?

Nessie never comes out in bright sunshine. She has little round ears, is covered with spots, and has a few tufts of hair. Oh, and she isn't as big as people imagine - she usually only has a couple of humps showing above the water.

MURDER MOST HORRID

Solve the clues and fill in the grid, and the outside columns should give you two easy ways of disposing of your worst enemies. Not recommended, though...

1 An inn or tavern
2 A South American country
3 A stretched circle
4 Someone you worship
5 The opposite of mad
6 To leave something out
7 Used in basketball, soccer and fishing



Knock your

block off

Which of the five headless ghosts is the odd one out?

MORE ODDITIES

Which are the odd ones out from these lists:

Run for your life

Help the horrified hunters through the maze and away from the castle - without meeting any of the nightmare characters on the way.

START

FINISH

Answers

Cornish Monster
Morgawr

What am I?
Pumkin

The Frankentwins

Answer = D & H

Caught in the House of Horrors

Doctor Who?

1 Herbert
2 Cemetery
3 Crossbones
4 Bermuda
5 Graveyard
6 Bandages
7 Bat
8 Witches
9 Yeti
10 Vlad
11 Demon
12 Zombies
13 Princes
14 Warlock
(or did you say Wizard?)
15 Bram
16 Grey
17 Pyramids
18 Loch (Ness)

FRANKENSTEIN

Ye Gods
Scream; Shake; Weep; Jump; Escape; Howl
The character is Ah Puch, Maya god of Death.

Witch Hunt

W	C	T	I	W	I	T	C	W
I	T	I	C	I	C	H	I	C
T	I	W	H	T	W	T	W	T
T	W	I	H	H	I	I	I	I
I	I	T	W	C	T	C	T	W
W	T	I	W	W	T	W	C	C
H	C	T	I	H	I	I	I	T
I	W	I	T	I	W	T	W	I
W	I	T	C	T	W	I	C	W

It's Terror Time

D K C A U L D R O N C
O C W E R E W O L F A
O I A Y E T I O A W N
L T D E T N U A H A N
B S D L M O O N A I I
R M A I P G H I L L B
H O E V O A A G L A A
E O R E I T G H O U L
A R D R S B A T W F A
D B L N O O M M E A M
L A L E N H T A E D E
E T E R R O R R N A N
S G Y O S C R E A M T
S T U G H O O D O O V

I Saw Her!

The 'real' Nessie appears in photo D.

Murder Most Horrid

Poison, bullet - stay away from me with those things!

1	■	P	U	B
2	P	E	R	U
3	O	V	A	L
4	I	D	O	L
5	S	A	N	E
6	O	M	I	T
7	N	E	T	■

Knock Your Block Off

Number 3 is the odd one out - check the eyes!

More Oddities

1. Catherine Parr is the only one who wasn't executed.

2. Mummies DID exist as the embalmed bodies of Pharaohs; the other two are fictional.

3. Catherine wasn't the subject of a Stephen King novel.

4. Miami has not been the setting for a horror film - the other two have.

5. Hairy Monster is not a common name for the Yeti.

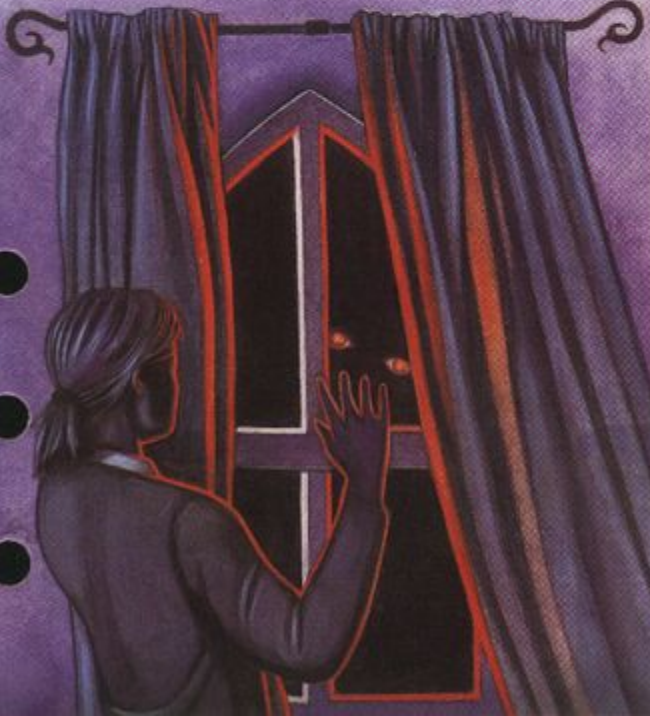
Run For Your Life

START FINISH

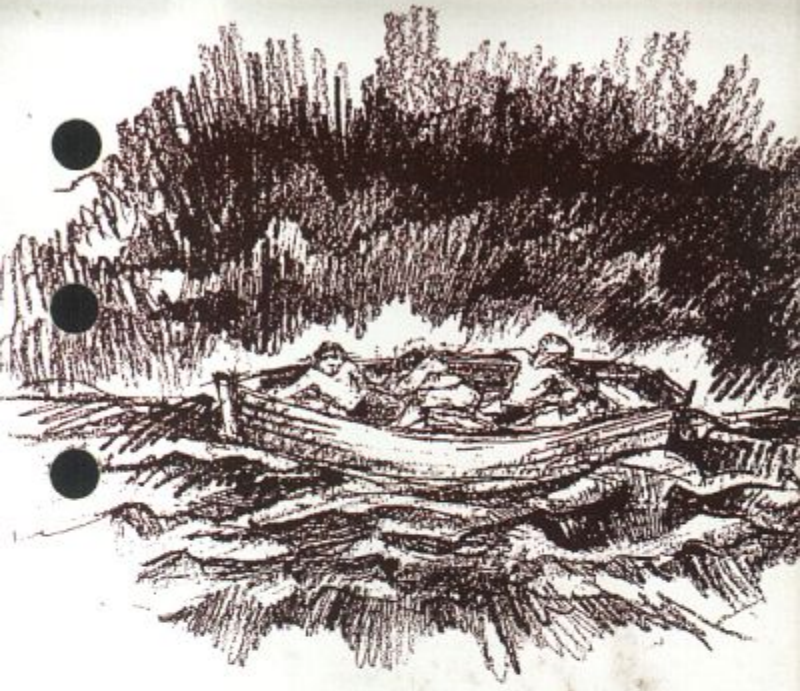
FUNFAX HORROR

HORROR AT AMITYVILLE

AND OTHER SHORT STORIES



GORY STORIES



The Survivors

Captain Thomas Dudley set sail from Southampton in 1884 with two crewmen and the ship's boy. Their vessel was an English ship, prettily named the *Mignonette*. The little ship made good progress until, 1,600 miles from the Cape of Good Hope, off South Africa, there was a ferocious storm. The *Mignonette* was pounded in the huge Atlantic swell. Her canvas sails were ripped by the shrill winds and the ship's timbers sprang apart as the storm raged on.

The crew worked on the treacherous decks, awash with foam. When they could no longer hoist sail to outrun the storm, they stowed what canvas they could, and went below, battening down the hatches behind them. But still the storm swept the Atlantic seas, and soon the *Mignonette* was taking sea water into her hold. The crew fought helplessly to try to save their ship.

It was futile. The ship lurched, laid almost flat by a giant wall of water. A freak wave. She hung and shuddered, then rolled. The men were tossed mercilessly across the cabin floor. Water began seeping rapidly through the boards.

"Captain, we're sinking," cried one of the crew.

"Man the boats. Hurry," ordered Captain Dudley.

There was just time to reach one of the little rowing boats, cut the holding ropes with a cutlass, and launch her into the perilous water. Clinging to the boat, the three desperate men and the boy peered through the stinging salt spray, until the *Mignonette* disappeared totally from their sight. They were 1,600 miles from land.

The safety boat they had launched was in a sorry state, equipped with neither water nor vital provisions. One crew man

had grabbed two 11-ounce tins of turnips as he dashed through the galley. This was all the food they had.

For three days, they shared out the turnips between them. They used their oilskin waterproof clothing to catch rainwater to drink. By the fourth day, the storm had abated, and they were able to catch a turtle. They ate rations of the turtle meat until the twentieth day, when it was gone. There seemed little prospect of another turtle.

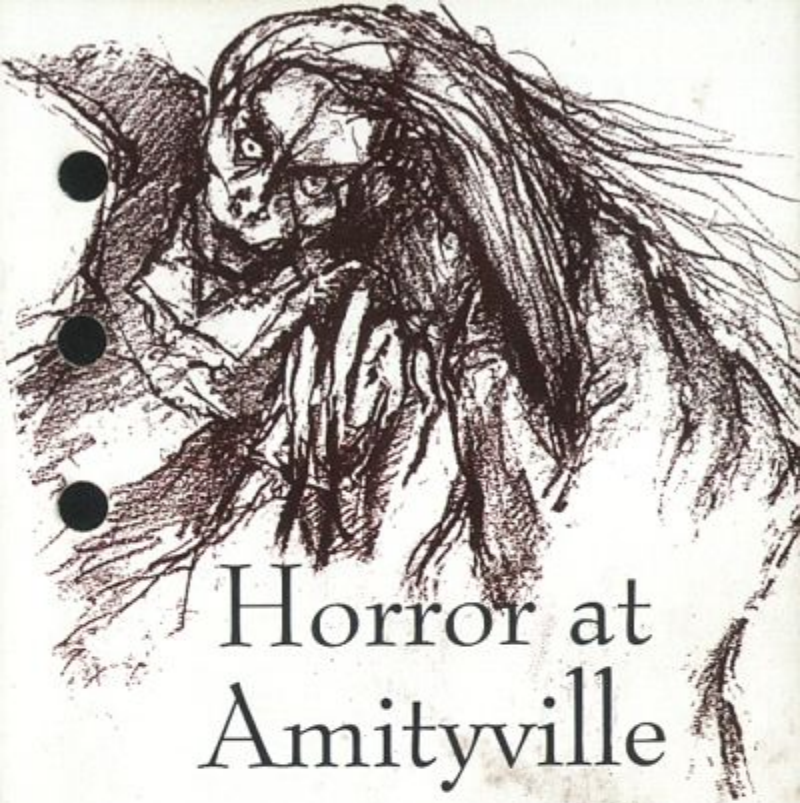
The captain reckoned their position was still 1,000 miles from the nearest land. The group began to discuss their fate. Dudley and a crewman, Stephens, agreed it was necessary to sacrifice a crew member, if anyone was to survive. They spoke of cannibalism. Brooks, the other crewman, was set against the idea, but it was clear Dudley and Stephens were thinking the boy must die.

Two more days passed. The men grew weaker. The boy, Richard, lay in the bottom of the boat, ill from drinking sea water and half starved. When Brooks fell asleep, both Dudley and Stephens crept forward toward the helpless boy. Dudley cut his throat.

For three days, the men ate human

flesh. Brooks refused but at last, it seems, he too gave in to cannibalism. On the fourth day after the killing, miraculously the boat was rescued. Dudley, Stephens and Brooks were found in a state of utter exhaustion.

Once on land, the truth was told. Dudley and Stephens were sent to trial in Exeter, charged with murder on the high seas. The case was then re-tried in London, since the circumstances had been so exceptional. The jury's verdict was guilty, but the judge was compassionate. Dudley and Stephens were committed to only six months in prison. Perhaps the judge knew the true horror of those twenty-four days at sea would haunt them to their graves.



Horror at Amityville

Amityville is a pleasant waterside village in the USA. Yet such a series of sinister events has taken place there, the very name of Amityville strikes a chill of horror wherever it is whispered.

In 1974, a pretty, old colonial house overlooking the bay was the setting of an awful, multiple murder. There, Ronald Defoe, aged 23, had drugged his parents, brothers and sisters at supper time. At 3.15 in the early hours of the next morning, he had shot and killed each member of his family.

When he was arrested, Defoe said he had heard 'voices' which told him to commit the murders. He was locked safely away in prison for the rest of his life.

The village was shocked but, after some months, life returned to normal in Amityville. A 'For Sale' sign went up outside the former Defoe family house. One day, George and Kathleen Lutz and their three children saw the pretty house and decided to buy it. To rid the house of its sad past, Mr and Mrs Lutz asked a local priest to bless the property. Father Mancuso went from room to room, murmuring a quiet prayer. As he did so, he heard a man's voice shout, "Get Out!". Yet he was quite alone in the room.

On the first night in their new home, the Lutz family were woken by strange noises. The next night they were woken again. The time was exactly 3.15 in the morning.

On the third night, the noises were more disturbing and Mr Lutz checked that all the windows and doors were locked before going back to bed. But at 3.15 precisely, he was woken again. He went downstairs to investigate. The heavy wooden door was hanging by one hinge. It had been wrenched open from inside the

house. The thick steel doorknob spindle was twisted and the metal plate behind it was badly bent.

If this was not worrying enough, Mr and Mrs Lutz said later, strange happenings continued to take place. It was as though the house had an evil force of its own. Windows opened and closed by themselves. The wooden bannister was found pulled from the staircase. Two weeks later, Mr Lutz awoke to see his wife floating above their bed. He grasped her hair to pull her down again, only to find that it wasn't his wife at all, but a hideous vision. Mrs Lutz apparently suffered some awful change which lasted over six hours, before she returned to her normal self.

It was Mrs Lutz, too, who later saw a pair of red glowing eyes peering in at the window. On another morning, when there was snow lying on the ground, Mr Lutz walked to the garage. He glanced across the lawn and could see strange tracks in the snow. He studied them more closely and was amazed to find they were the imprints of cloven hooves.

After only 28 days in their new home, and it had seemed the longest 28 days of their lives, the Lutz family left Amityville. But the strangest was yet to

come. As they hurriedly packed, a disgusting green slime was seen to ooze from the walls and ceiling. Locking the doors, Mr Lutz found a sticky black substance gumming up the keyholes.

Safe in another house, the Lutz family recounted their extraordinary story to a writer, Jay Anson. Little did he know then, Mr Anson was soon to be in a horror story of his own!

Mr Anson set out to write a book about the Lutz family in Amityville. He lent part of his manuscript to a lady who was going to read it for him. That night, her home was engulfed by a terrible fire. Tragically, it suffocated her and two of her children. By coincidence, or not, the Amityville manuscript did not burn.

Another friend of the writer promised to look through the book. He put it in his car and headed home. He drove through what he thought was a puddle. Suddenly he was submerged in a deep hole, twelve feet deep. Astonishingly, the only thing that didn't get wet was the manuscript.

A photographer, working on the book with Anson, took pictures of the house in Amityville. He put the pictures in his car to take to show the writer. Within a

short distance, his car was ablaze. Another mysterious fire had broken out.

The editor of the book suffered the same terrifying event when he collected the completed book. His car caught fire and then he discovered that all the bolts on his engine had been deliberately loosened, somehow.

Jay Anson endured further setbacks, including a heart attack and the death of his own son and a friend in a car accident. Of course, these sad events may have had nothing to do with his book.

The book was a success, of course, and what a good film it would make. Film rights were sold soon after. The film makers, however, decided *not* to use the real house in Amityville. Well, would you?

Ice Passage

Whaling was once an important trade to people living in northern America. Two hundred years ago, it was not unusual for United States whaling ships to 'fish' the icy waters of the North Atlantic ocean, just inside the Arctic Circle. So it was, in 1775, the US whaler ship *Herald* came to be cruising off the frosty, foggy west coast of Greenland. What the *Herald* and her crew found there was so extraordinary, it has never been explained.

The watchman aboard the whaler spied something drifting through the fog ahead. All hands on deck stared into the greyness. As the *Herald* neared the object, Captain Warren and his men could distinguish the three masts of an old schooner. She was not under sail, but simply drifting, silently, through the floating, broken ice.

Captain Warren gave the order to board the schooner. He and a party of four men launched one of the *Herald's* longboats, and rowed toward the schooner. As they got closer, they could see her decks were green, covered in a thin veil of moss. On deck, there was no sound. Nothing

stirred. The search party went below.

There they made a grim discovery, far more gruesome than Captain Warren had prepared himself, or his crew, to expect. The bodies of twenty-eight men lay in their bunks, wrapped around in blankets. The schooner's captain was dead, too. His body slumped over his log book. A pen lay near his withered fingers.

A woman lay dead in her bed, under piles of blankets. Her hair was still blonde. In the corner of the room were the corpses of a sailor and a boy. Like a grim tableau, the boy's face was buried in the sailor's jacket, perhaps mourning the dying of his mother, the captain's wife. The sailor, minding the boy, sat with his flint and steel clutched in frozen hands, a heap of shavings undisturbed in front of him.

Quietly, Captain Warren picked up the log book, and the group rowed back to the *Herald*. The schooner's name was the *Octavius*. She drifted on into the fog, never to be seen again.

The log book was to reveal an astonishing fact. The *Octavius* had been drifting for thirteen years. The last entry in her log was dated November 11th, 1762, after a period of at least 17 days when the ship had been frozen, locked in the ice.

One by one, her crew had frozen to death. Her position was given in that last log entry. 160 degrees West, 75 degrees North.

Somehow, the ghost ship *Octavius* had drifted thousands of miles from the Arctic Ocean, north of Point Barrow, in Alaska, through the Polar ice cap, and out into the North Atlantic ocean. Unmanned, she had somehow found her way through a north-west passage, the first ever vessel to navigate such a route. The next to succeed was a trans-polar expedition in 1968, almost two hundred years later.

Blood in the Stone

There is a village, not far away, with its old and sleepy houses, quite like any other village. Beyond the garden walls, an old road snakes away over a little bridge. A pretty spot to stand and take a photograph in the summer sunshine, but on a dark night, linger there at your peril.

The little bridge holds a secret so terrible that few villagers will talk of it. The braver ones, in hushed whispers, tell it like this ...

There was once a man named Josiah Burge, a corn merchant in these parts. He was a mean and brutish man, a friend to no-one. Josiah was a cruel man, too. It was said he beat his wife black and blue. So when, one sad day, news reached the village that Josiah's wife was dead, brutally murdered, all eyes turned on the villainous husband.

But Josiah was a merchant, a man with more money than most. He was tried in court for murder, but he bribed the doctor to give false witness. Josiah Burge walked from the court a free man. He had made a mockery of justice.

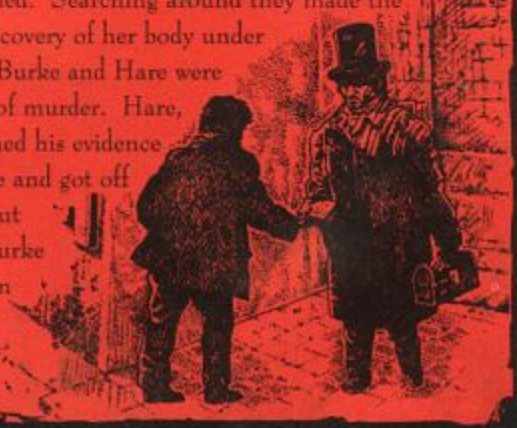
If the law would not bring a murderer to justice, then one man would. That gentleman was the brother of Josiah's dead wife. He had returned to the country from his work overseas, and learned his sister had died. Suspecting the terrible truth, he determined secretly to avenge her death. One dark night, on April 7th, they say, Josiah Burge came trotting toward the bridge in his horse and trap. Hidden from sight among the dark shadows, his brother-

TWEFAX HORROR

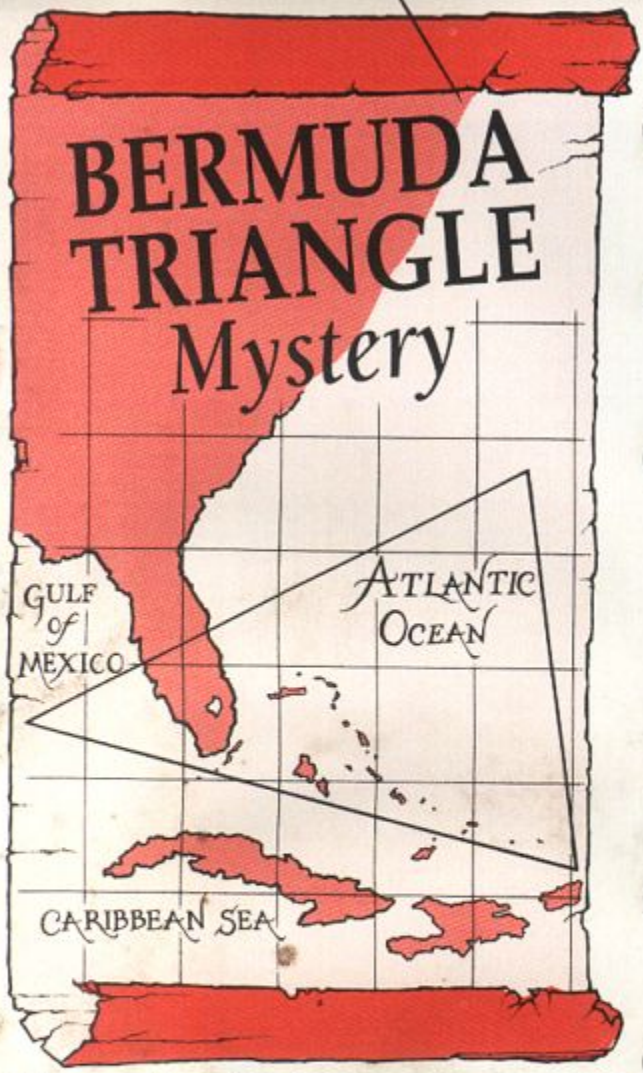
REAL LIFE HORROR

Burke and Hare Bodysnatchers

William Burke and William Hare were two Irishmen living in Edinburgh. At the time, human dissection was illegal and people were making a living out of snatching bodies out of graveyards to sell to hospitals for research. Burke and Hare decided to get in on the act and when an old lodger living in the same building as them died, they made a lot of money by selling his body. It is then that they came up with their own gory solution to bodysnatching. They would search the streets for poor, homeless people who weren't likely to have any concerned families or friends. They would then lure them back to their lodgings where they would supply them with lots of alcohol and then do the grisly deed of killing them. In just 9 months, Burke and Hare had sold 16 bodies to the same doctor (charging around £8 - £14 a body). Doctors were so desperate for bodies, they conveniently overlooked suspicious circumstances such as these. But an old man and woman lodging with the pair became suspicious when an old lady, who had been with Burke and Hare the night before, vanished. Searching around they made the horrifying discovery of her body under a tarpaulin. Burke and Hare were found guilty of murder. Hare, however, turned his evidence against Burke and got off a free man, but butchering Burke was hanged on 28 January, 1829.



BERMUDA TRIANGLE Mystery



This area of the globe has earned its nickname through mysterious disappearances. The 'triangle' covers sea and air space. Civilian and military logs dating back years record some 1,000 people who have disappeared without trace somewhere in the area.

The most publicised disappearance was on December 5, 1945. Flying conditions were perfect, as 5 U.S. Navy warplanes took off from Florida for a training session.

Once airbourne, the pilots radioed that they were on course, although they were actually flying in the opposite direction. Two hours later, the aircraft seemed to have disappeared. A Martin bomber was sent off to look for them. That, too, lost radio contact. What had happened? Six planes and 27 men had simply vanished.

In March 1918, the U.S. ship Cyclops vanished without even making a distress call. No wreckage nor any of the crew of 309 were ever found.

There seems no satisfactory explanation. Theories about mystical powers in the area have been suggested by some people. Sudden power failure, compass-spinning and magnetic pulls have all been reported, and these reports have prompted some to talk about UFOs (unidentified flying objects). Another unproven theory mentions the earth's natural magnetic force, some phenomenal freak centrifugal action which could spin objects into another level of the atmosphere, or dash them to the bottom of the sea.

Only one thing is certain. No-one really knows.

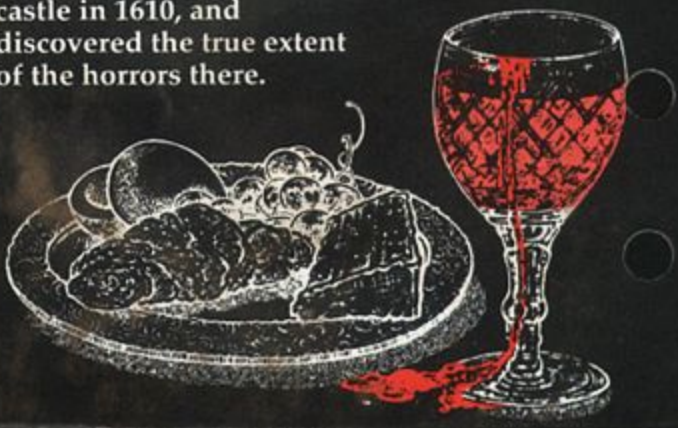
'Countess Dracula'

Countess Elizabeth Bathory

A 1970 Hammer horror film gave this Hungarian lady her nickname. She lived from 1560 to 1614, and is thought to have murdered between 300 and 650 girls. (At her trial, she personally listed 610 victims.) She believed that drinking their blood would keep her from growing old. When the court found her guilty, she was walled up inside her own castle.

The Countess specialised in black magic and witchcraft. She threw her own children out of the home. Her servant Thorko was a witch. He would search the countryside for young girls, or lure them to the castle by offering jobs for servants. There they would be killed, so that the evil countess could bathe in blood.

Finally, the murderers became careless. Instead of burying them, they left the bodies in the forest for the wolves. Villagers found four bodies and told the police. The Countess had a noble cousin, Thurzo, who led a raid into the castle in 1610, and discovered the true extent of the horrors there.



Dr. Crippen

After the natural death of his wife, Crippen married a singer who called herself Belle. The couple left the USA and came to live in London in 1879. This marriage was not a happy one and his wife was unfaithful. Crippen began a love affair of his own with a woman called Ethel. It seems Belle was only interested in her husband's money, and there wasn't much of that. She nagged him and taunted him.

Dr. Crippen bought a poison and killed Belle. He told people she had gone suddenly to America but people became suspicious. Crippen and Ethel tried to flee the country on board a ship bound for Canada, but they were found out. Back at Crippen's London home, police had discovered the missing Belle ... under the cellar floor, in small pieces, her limbs and head cut off, and minus a good many of her fine bones. The 'good' doctor was hung.

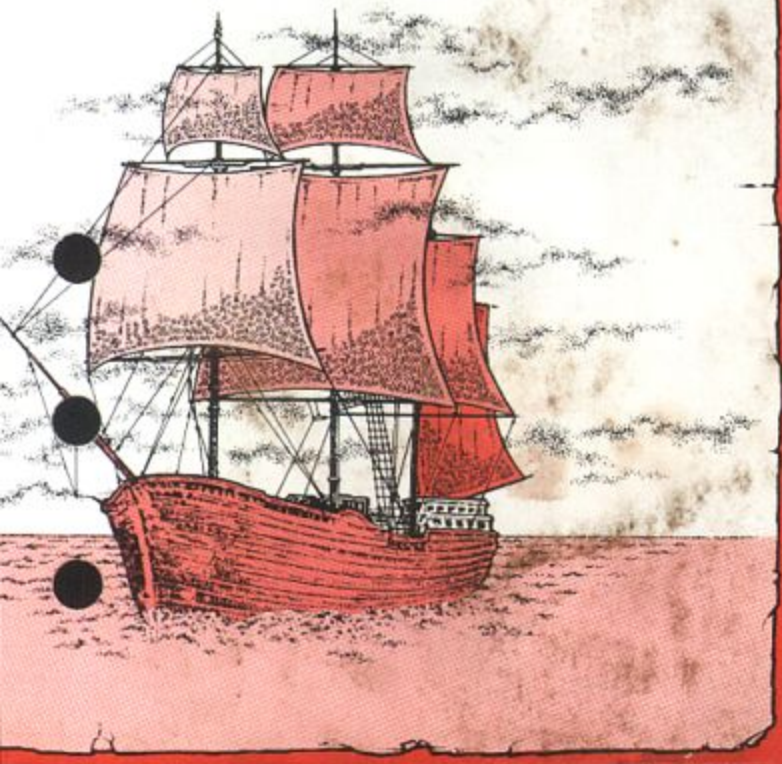
Mary Celeste

A square-rigged brigantine set sail from New York in 1872, bound for Italy. She carried a cargo of crude alcohol, a crew of seven, and the master's wife and daughter. The last entry in the log is dated November 25th, when the master recorded the ship's position, spotting the Azores, and stormy weather.

Ten days later, a British ship sighted the Mary Celeste drifting. A longboat was sent to investigate. Aboard the Mary Celeste, there was silence. No-one was found, alive or dead. In the crew's quarters, washing hung on the line. Clothing was piled on bunks, dry and tidy. In the ship's galley, breakfast appeared to have been half-served. The top of the captain's egg was cut, but it had been left uneaten. Nothing was disturbed or upset. There were no signs of panic or struggle, storm or mutiny. So where had everyone gone?

No-one has ever found the answer. Yet there are more strange facts to tell about this ship. The British ship which found the Mary Celeste stated it was impossible for her to have sailed the course she did, without crew, for ten days, with her sails set as they were. If so, someone must have been aboard her for some days after the log was last entered. Who could it have been?

The ship was to suffer no better fortune later. It changed hands no less than 17 times before it sunk on a coral reef in 1884.



JOHN THE JIBBER

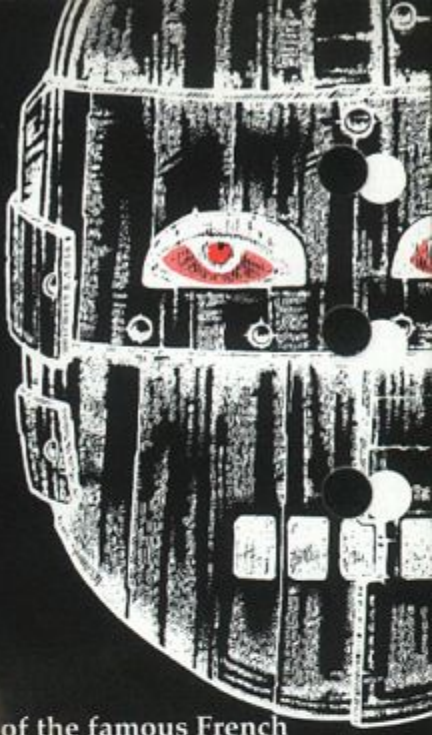
A SMUGGLER'S TALE

Marsden Grotto is one of a series of caverns between South Shields and Sunderland, on England's north-eastern coast. A smuggling gang used the grotto to store their booty. They were betrayed by a colleague, John the Jibber. Coastguards were alerted as the gang rowed ashore. A friend of the gang heard of the plot and warned his friends (by shooting a pistol) aboard the boat they were rowing from. John the Jibber regretted his treachery. He was trussed up in a barrel, hoisted to the roof of the cavern and left to starve to death. The grotto is now a restaurant and has echoed with his screams for more than 150 years.

Lazio and Susi Kronberg

In 1919, just after the First World War, inn-keeper Lazio and his wife Susi could no longer afford to buy food. Their daughter and son had both run away and the couple were without hope. They agreed on a plan to kill people for their money. Lazio dug a trench for the bodies, and his wife bought poison, pretending it was to kill wolves. By 1921 they had killed ten people by lacing their wine with the poison. They decided to kill one more and, in 1922, a man came to the inn, carrying a heavy case. The innkeepers thought the case contained coins. They invited the man to eat with them, and because they enjoyed his company, they were at first reluctant to kill him. But then they served the poisoned wine.

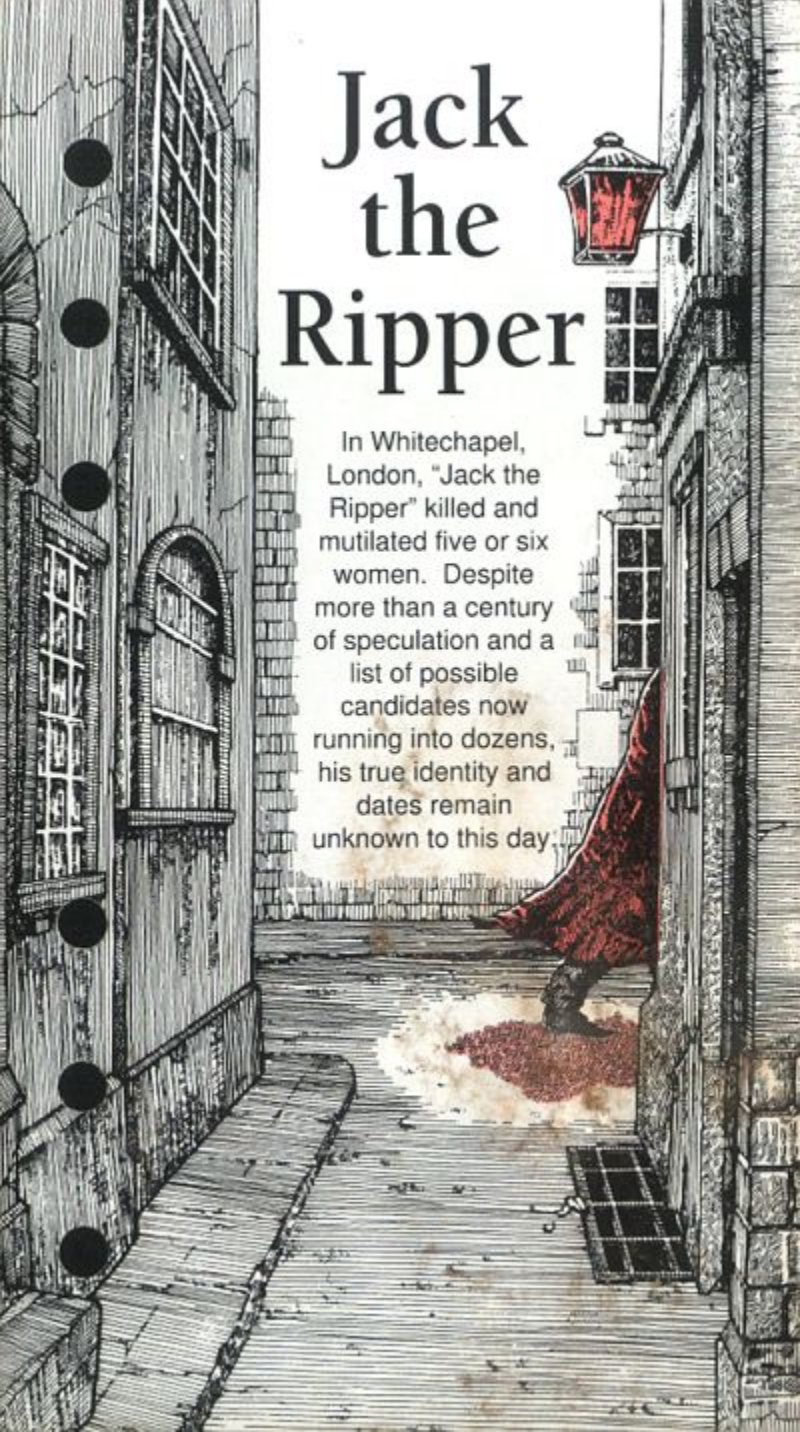
When the man lay dead, the couple searched the case. Indeed, it held gold coins. Many of them. And a photograph of themselves. They had murdered their very own son. In grief they drank the poisoned wine, but not before leaving a note, confessing the terrible things they had done. The inn finally burned down in 1980, but anyone who entered reported 13 ghostly figures sitting round the inner table with their lips peeled back in a macabre smile. This was a symptom of the strychnine crystals used to poison the wine.



The man in the Iron Mask

In 1703, in the depths of the famous French fortress, La Bastille, a man died after being 34 years a prisoner. He was buried secretly at night, under a false name. To this day, no-one has discovered his true identity. Under pain of death, he was forbidden to speak about himself. His face was totally covered by a mask. This man was clearly an important prisoner. His cell was shut with triple doors, yet his food was served on silver trays.

Rumour suggests the stranger may have been an illegitimate son of King Charles II of England, or the half-brother of King Louis XIV of France. With his death there in the fortress, the key to a national scandal was lost forever.



Jack the Ripper

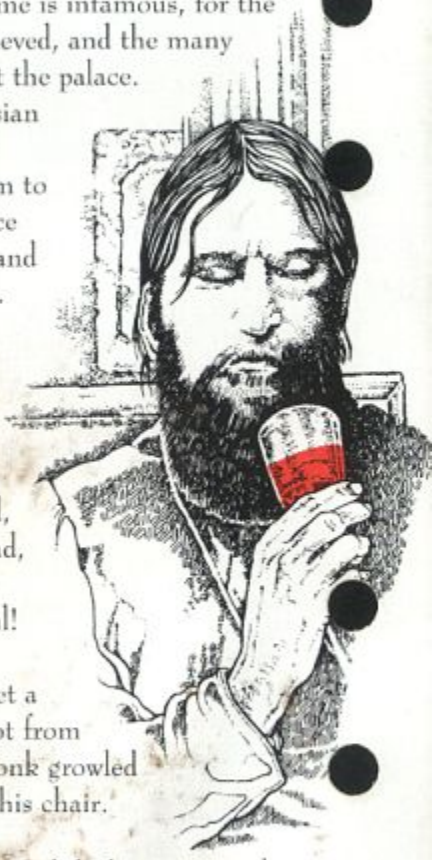
In Whitechapel, London, "Jack the Ripper" killed and mutilated five or six women. Despite more than a century of speculation and a list of possible candidates now running into dozens, his true identity and dates remain unknown to this day.

Rasputin,

the monk who would not die

In the 1900s, this 'drunken monk' became an adviser to the family of Tsar Nicholas, the king of Russia. Rasputin's name is infamous, for the frightening power he achieved, and the many treacheries he practised at the palace.

In 1916, a group of Russian noblemen plotted to kill Rasputin. They lured him to a secret room in the palace where they fed him cake and gave him wine to drink ... all laced with a terrible poison, Cyanide.



After many glasses, greedy Rasputin should have dropped dead, to the stone floor. Instead, he demanded more wine, and became quite cheerful! Panicking, one of the collaborators ran off to get a gun and fired a single shot from close range. The mad monk growled angrily, then slumped in his chair.

With relief, the assassins left the room, and went off to celebrate the assassination. When they came back an hour later, Rasputin's 'body' flicked open one eye, then suddenly hurled itself onto a would-be assassin, before chasing him, screaming, out of the palace.

The other conspirators were astounded that Rasputin had not yet been killed. They gave chase, and shot him twice again, which brought him, not surprisingly, to his knees. Here the assassins beat and clubbed him on the ground. Then, to make perfectly sure the hated prophet was absolutely dead, they wrapped him in a curtain and pushed him beneath the ice of the frozen river.

Despite his earlier rough treatment, an autopsy revealed that Rasputin had drowned! But people's hatred and fear of this man did not stop at his death. During the Russian Revolution soon after, the mad monk's remains were dug up and publicly burned.

Princes in the Tower

Edward and Richard were the two nephews of Richard III, Duke of Gloucester. The two boys were lodging in the royal apartments of the Tower of London, as the young Prince Edward was soon to be crowned King of England. But his uncle plotted to stop the coronation, protesting that Edward's father had never been properly married. Secretly, the two boys were then moved out of the royal rooms, although they were still seen at the tower windows for a while. Then they vanished totally from sight.

It has never been proved whether their uncle Richard ordered the death of the two boys. Henry Tudor (later Henry VII) also wanted the throne. He may have perpetrated their murder. The unfortunate princes were buried in a box, beneath a staircase in the tower. The bones of two children were discovered by workmen, and now rest in Westminster Abbey.

Martha Merek

Money mad Martha was a nasty piece of work. She first came to the attention of police in her native Australia, when she tried a grotesque insurance hoax. She hacked away at her husband's legs with an axe (*with* his permission!), and then claimed from the insurance company for accidental injury compensation. But the doctor who treated her husband's wounds was suspicious that the angle of the cuts did not match the husband's story of the accident.

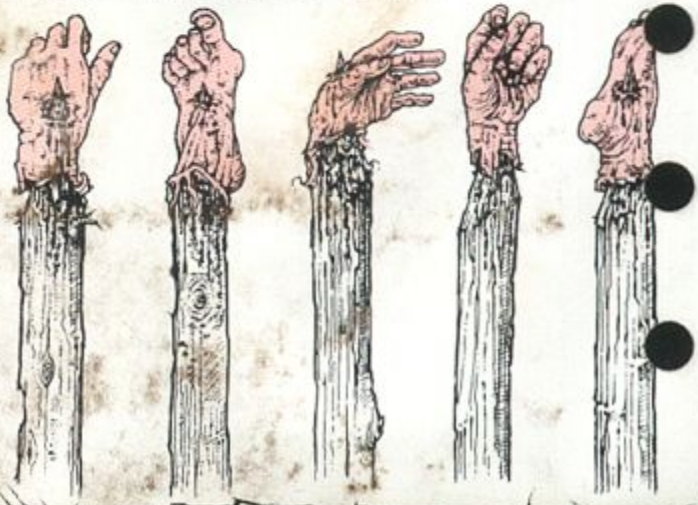
Martha served a long prison sentence. Sadly, this didn't reform her. When she was freed, she set about to successfully poison her husband, her children, a friendly old lady, and two lodgers who all had insurance policies in Martha's favour!

Quite fittingly, Martha met her end on the executioner's block.

Vlad the Impaler

the real Dracula

A man called Vlad Basarab, Prince of Walachia, who lived from 1430/31 - 1476, was the inspiration behind Bram Stoker's famous novel "Dracula". The name "Dracula" was given to him because of his father, who was known as Dracul. The word means "dragon", "devil" or "vampire". He was known as a great fighter, but also as a bloodthirsty murderer. Although he was never known to drink his victims' blood, his favourite sport was cutting off his victims' hands and feet, putting them onto huge wooden spikes, skewering them, and leaving them to die. He became known as Vlad the Impaler. He wasn't choosy about his victims, - he murdered anyone who got in his way. The greatest number of victims he killed at any one time was a shuddering 30,000. He himself was killed in 1476 when his head was cut off by Turkish enemies.



Sweeney Todd

This gentleman also won the inviting nickname, 'Demon Barber of Fleet Street'. He may, or may not have really existed in London in the shadowy 1780s, but his gruesome tale is well known. The story goes that Mr Todd, the barber, had a revolving floor in his city barber shop. Unsuspecting customers were swung from their chair down into the cellar, where Todd would dispatch them with a cut-throat razor ... literally.

The horrible tale goes on. He is said to have delivered his victims to a nearby baker's shop, through underground passages. There the bodies were received by Mrs Lovett, the baker's wife, who obligingly prepared them for her meat pies.

LIFE OR DEATH STORY

In the summer of 1967, Mark and his fiancée, Paula, were walking by the river. Suddenly, they heard cries for help.

They saw a girl in a bright yellow dress struggling in the water. Her hat was floating behind her head. Mark leapt in. He could hear her cries and feel the movement in the water from her thrashing body. But when he reached where he thought she should be, there was nothing there. He asked Paula if she could see the little girl from the bank, thinking that she must have been swept downstream by a current. Paula simply stood on the bank, apparently in a trance. Mark shouted to her again, this time getting her attention.

'She's gone - she's not there any more,' whispered the frightened girl. Mark returned to the shore. The water appeared completely unruffled. 'She disappeared as you got close.'

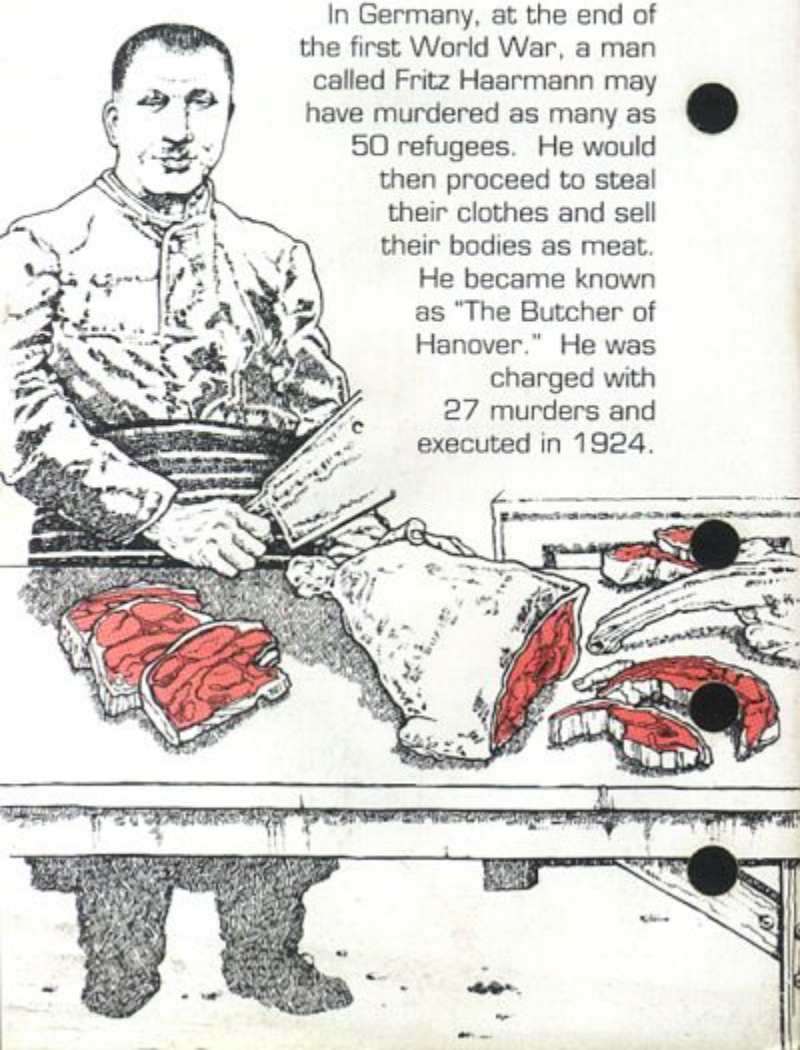
You mean she drowned? Show me where. I may still be able to get to her in time.' Frustrated by Paula's lack of response, Mark dived in the river again and repeatedly checked the area where he had last seen the little girl. He would never find her. Paula repeated her conviction that the girl had not sunk - she had vanished...

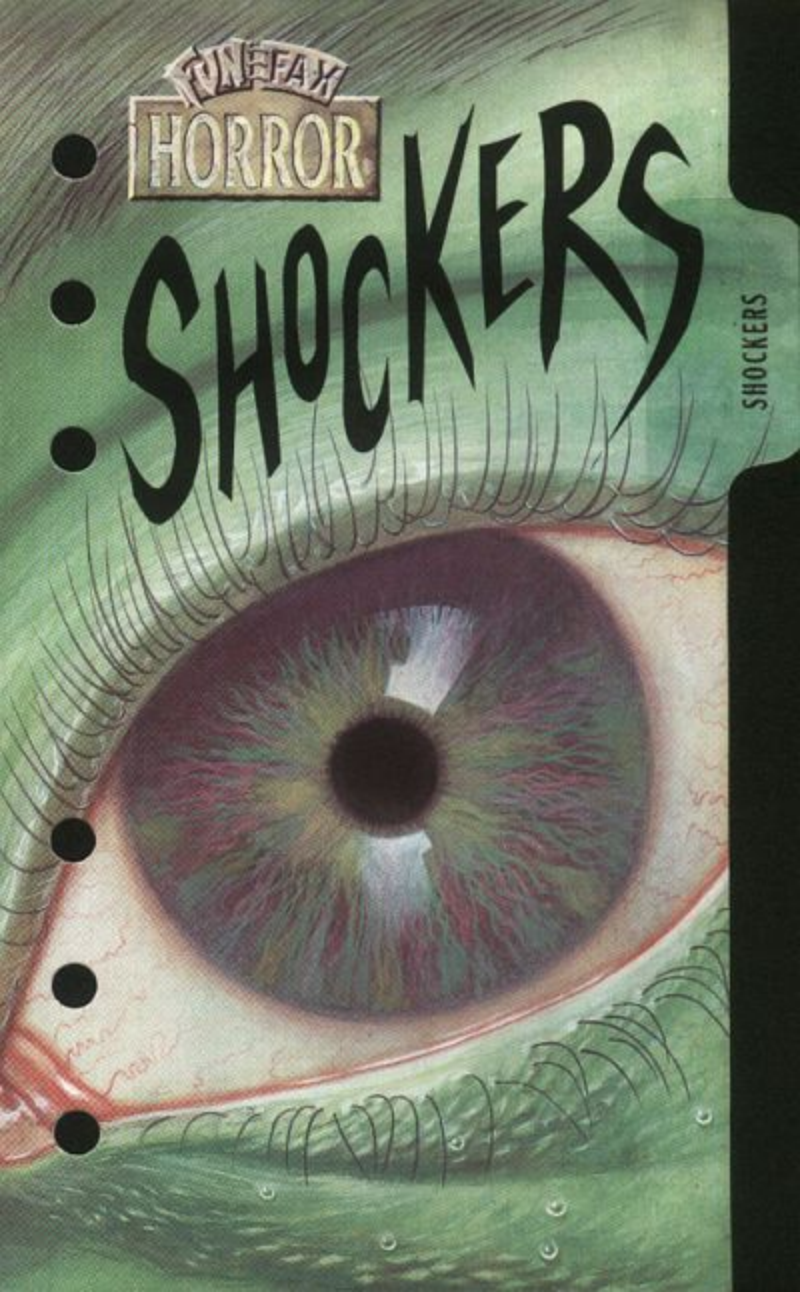
When the pair alerted a man in a boat coming up the river, they were told that this was a fairly regular occurrence and that at least twelve reports of the girl in yellow had been made over the years. Elaborate searches had been carried out; nothing was ever found, nor did anyone know who the girl had been.

The mysterious girl always appears in summer, and always during the afternoon.

BUTCHER OF HANOVER

In Germany, at the end of the first World War, a man called Fritz Haarmann may have murdered as many as 50 refugees. He would then proceed to steal their clothes and sell their bodies as meat. He became known as "The Butcher of Hanover." He was charged with 27 murders and executed in 1924.




FUN-FAX
HORROR
SHOCKERS
SHOCKERS

HEY, FRANKIE

Frankenstein's monster is always 'popular' at parties. Here are some tips to make him look his best:

1 Save a couple of cotton reels to stick to the side of your neck as monster bolts. Use Copydex glue, which peels safely off skin.

2 To create effective scars, use red face paint, non-toxic red felt-tip, or a red lipstick.

3 After drawing the scar line, gently pinch the skin around it. Put a blob of Copydex on the crease you have made. Hold the skin until the glue has dried and then gently let go. The glue should have dried leaving the scar looking deep and nasty.

4 Draw stitches across with a black eyeliner pencil, or add some fake blood around the scar to look like a fresh wound.

5 Use a green face paint to create a sickly green tinge to the monster's skin. Very white skin can look effective, too - just brush on some talcum powder.

7 Use hair gel to brush your hair upwards in a freaky style.

8 Wear all black clothes - a black suit would look best. Add heavy clonking boots.

6 Give your monster even more of a sickly appearance, by using black and dark coloured eyeshadows around your eyes. Use the eyeshadow to shade underneath the cheekbones to make them look hollow.

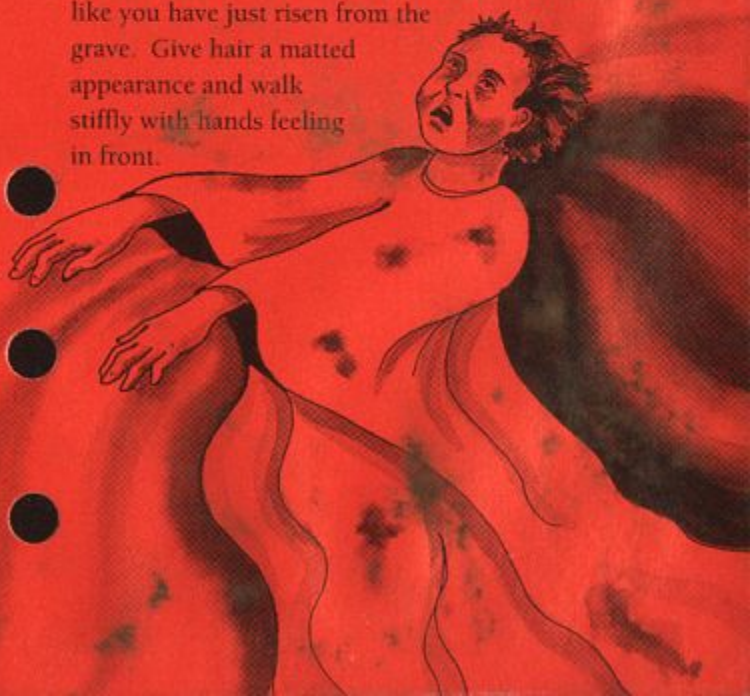
PARTY PIECES

If you are going to a 'Frankie' dress party, try and get someone to go as your bride. Dress her in frilly white clothes, with old white curtains if you can find some to make a veil. Make her look sufficiently ill, using dark eyeshadow and talcum powder. Give the bride some drooping flowers as a final touch.

Vampires look impressive dressed in a black cloak, white shirt and a red neck tie. Turn up the collar of the shirt. Use black eyeliner to thicken the eyebrows and highlight the eyes. Use white face paint or talcum powder to give the face a deathly appearance. Paint the lips red and make it look as if blood is running from the mouth.

Make hands look decaying. Rub dark eyeshadow onto the fingers, between the joints. Highlight veins with eyeshadow, or an eyeliner pencil. Rub dark eyeshadow between the knuckles. Rub talcum powder over the hands. Make long fingernails from cardboard and stick them on with nail glue, then paint them bright red. Have these hands been clawing their way out of a coffin?

Rub dark eyeshadow around the eyes and cheeks and brush on talcum powder to give the zombie look. Wear an old sheet with dirt painted on to look like you have just risen from the grave. Give hair a matted appearance and walk stiffly with hands feeling in front.

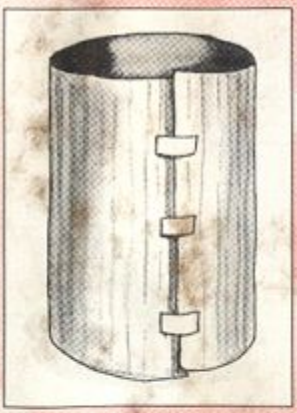


COMPLETELY HARMLESS

(and headless)

What you will need:

- ✖ an assistant
- ✖ a long skirt or long trousers, an over-sized shirt and a large button fastening jacket
- ✖ a large piece of stiff cardboard or corrugated card (about 120 cm by 60 cm)
- ✖ scissors and tape
- ✖ safety pins
- ✖ red piece of material or towel



1 Roll the cardboard into a tube, joining the shortest sides. Use some sticky tape to hold the tube in place.

2 Put this on over your head. Ask your friend to mark where your head is. Take it off and carefully cut out a large circle where your head was marked, trying hard not to squash the cardboard.

3 Cut out some half circles where the tube will rest on your shoulders.

4 Place the red material on top of the tube, holding it in place with some pins or sticky tape. Pop on the tube and slip your head into the hole. Make sure it doesn't look lop-sided.

5 With help from your friend, put on the shirt over the tube, leaving it unbuttoned where your head will stick through. Put your hands through this hole but don't show your arms.

6 Put on the skirt or trousers. These must come up to the place where your real armpits are. Put on the jacket over the shirt. Stuff the sleeves of the shirt into the jacket sleeves, and push in some newspaper to look as if arms are inside. Ask your friend to pin the jacket sleeves under your chin, to look like you are holding your head.

Now you can wander round, moaning about your raging headache.

BACK TO FRONT

Put on a top backwards - a shirt looks most effective with it buttoned up at the back. Perhaps put on a tie the wrong way round. Turn your arms backwards. Sit at a table with a tablecloth covering the front. Sit and wait for unsuspecting victims to walk into the room and see how you have painfully twisted your head. Don't let them walk around the table or this will spoil the trick. You could tell them a suitably horrible story about how you came to have a turned around head...

You could borrow some glasses or sunglasses and put these on over your hair. Pretend you have turned into a horrible hairy creature and warn them not to come too near because you suddenly have the desire to eat them!

Make some boggly eyes with an old ping pong ball. Cut it in half, make small holes for some elastic to pass through and join the eyes together, and cut out some small holes at the front of each to see through. Decorate with horrible red veins.

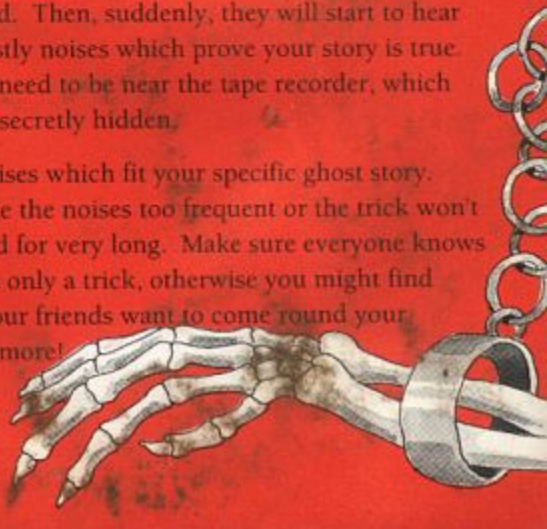
HOMELY GHOST

Everyone loves telling ghost stories. Why don't you ask your friends round to sit about and tell their ghostly tales?

Before your friends come round, do some advance preparation. You will need a tape recorder and a 120 minute tape. Fast forward the tape so that it is half-way through on the first side (30 minutes of blank recording). On the rest of that side record some ghostly sounds. Try rattling chains, moaning, screaming and making heavy thudding footsteps.

When your friends come round, the first 30 minutes will be silent on the tape, which gives you enough time to tell your friends about the horrible ghosts that haunt your house. By this time they will be feeling a little scared. Then, suddenly, they will start to hear awful ghostly noises which prove your story is true. You don't need to be near the tape recorder, which should be secretly hidden.

Record noises which fit your specific ghost story. Don't make the noises too frequent or the trick won't be believed for very long. Make sure everyone knows that it was only a trick, otherwise you might find none of your friends want to come round your house anymore!



TIME FOR TRICKERY

If you are really cruel and heartless, there are a lot of horrible practical tricks you can play on people. Choose your 'victim' carefully - some people won't appreciate the trick. Some are just too nervous or squeamish. Don't set out to scare people silly - well, only a little bit!

Boggling Bump

Stick a few marbles underneath a bandage. Tell people how a swarm of strange, mutant flies attacked you and now your arm seems to be swelling horribly. It could look really disgusting with a bit of yellow or green paint dabbed on the bandage to look as if it is infected.

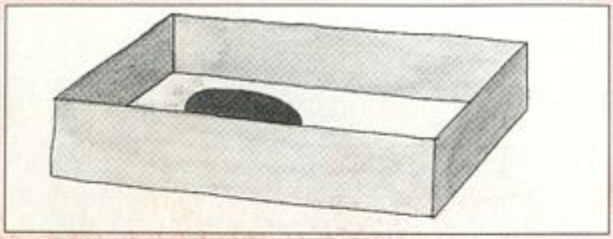
PECKISH

Take one plain bread stick. Hold it between your second and third fingers. Start talking about cannibalism, and mention about how peckish you feel as you nibble a bit of your bread stick "finger". Or chatter about what a bad habit nail biting is and how you can't stop biting yours (as you munch the whole of your finger).

Bloody Finger

Make a small cardboard tube that will fit comfortably on your finger. Wrap some bandage around the tube, including stretching some across the top. Using fake blood or something red, make it look as if the wound is fresh. Pop on the "finger" to get out of PE, cleaning your room or writing an essay. You'll need a suitable gory tale about why you have an injured finger...

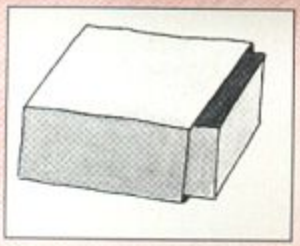
LOOK
WHAT I'VE FOUND!



1 Take out the drawer part of an empty matchbox. At the bottom of this make a hole big enough to poke your finger through.

2 Pop in some cotton wool, staining it with some red felt-tip blood.

3 With a non-toxic felt-tip, or red lipstick, draw a jagged, red line on the finger you will use, to look as if the finger was severed.



4 Put on the sleeve of the matchbox.

5 Show the audience the box, without showing the bottom, and tell them that you have made a gruesome discovery. Without giving the game away, secretly pop your finger up through the hole. With your other hand, slip off the cover and show them the severed finger.

To really scare them, wiggle it around a bit!

BIT OF AN ACCIDENT

The nail through the finger is a classic trick. All you have to do is ask an adult to bend a nail, so that it will mould around your finger. It will look as if the nail has gone all the way through. Use some false blood to look even more realistic. Perhaps you could bandage the finger with the nail sticking out.

CRACKING!

Put both hands over your nose, one on top of the other. The thumb and forefinger of the top hand should grasp your nose. Gently tweak your nose from side to side. Everyone will wince as they hear your nose crack, when in fact you are making the sound with the thumbnail of your bottom hand, hitting against your teeth.

FREAKY FOOTPRINTS

Make some of your own monster footprints and set the neighbourhood buzzing. They are best done in the snow, although you could have a go at making them in a dirt path, or gravel driveway. All you need to do is stand in two buckets. Use large strides to walk across the surface. Stop after you have made one step, and use a stick to make holes for the toes. Have a go at making claw marks as well.

Nice To Meet You

This one looks less suspicious in winter. You must be wearing a coat with wide sleeves and have a wooden rod at the ready. Stuff a glove with newspaper, except for the middle finger. Push the rod into the middle finger and then into one arm of the coat. Keep hold of the rod, so that it doesn't slip out, and put on the matching glove. Now, go up to one of your friends, as if to greet them warmly, and give them a handshake they won't forget in a hurry as your hand slips off.

WHAT WAS THAT!

If you are feeling particularly unkind, here are a couple of things you could do to frighten your brothers or sisters, or, if you are particularly daring, your mum and dad.

Stick a long length of cotton onto a piece of paper. Just before the person you want to scare goes to bed, lay the bit of paper on something high, such as a wardrobe, so that it is out of sight. Trail the cotton out under the bedroom door making sure the thread is hidden. Wait a few minutes for the person to settle. Start to make soft, ghostly noises outside their room. Wait again for a while until they settle down, then gently tug on the cotton. The paper will fall to the floor, making a spooky rustling sound as it does. If the person sees the paper, they might still get a fright as a white, shimmering thing floats across the room!

TAP-TAP-TAP

Tie a small stick (no metal or it might break the window) to a length of string. Tie the string onto the window fastener (the window will have to be slightly ajar) and let the wind do all the rest. Your victim will lay there and hear a ghostly tap-tapping against the window, snuggling under the covers and not daring to find out what's making the noise. Don't be too cruel and let them suffer all night (they won't be in a very good mood tomorrow otherwise), tell them it's just a practical joke.

GHOSTLY MESSAGES

Here's a good way to use invisible ink. The best "ink" to use is lemon juice. Dip a fine brush into some juice and paint it onto a blank sheet of paper. To reveal the message, lay the paper next to something warm, perhaps hold it over a lamp or next to a radiator. Ask your friends around to tell ghostly tales. Have a few messages already written in invisible ink. They will see blank paper at first, but then, as if from nowhere, a message takes shape. It could read something like:

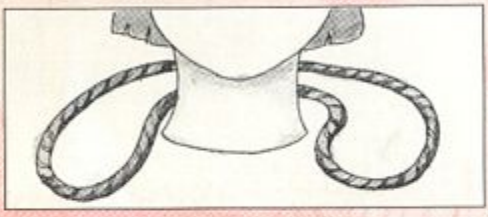
I AM THE GHOST OF LORD GREY AND I AM WATCHING YOU.

PAIN IN THE NECK

For this trick you must be EXTREMELY CAREFUL. Read the instructions thoroughly before trying the trick.

1 You will need a piece of string, 80cm long. It must be easily breakable string.

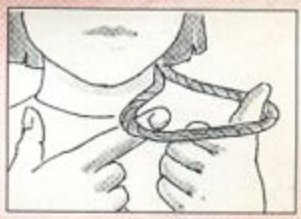
2 Tie the two ends of the string together to form a loop and place this doubled string round the back of your neck.



3 The two loops at the ends will be slipped over your thumbs - right loop over right thumb, left over left.

4 Tell the person watching that you are going to pull the string right through your neck. Ask them to check the string at the back of your neck.

5 As they do this, you put your left hand forefinger into the right loop.



6 Now turn to face your friend. As you do this, move your thumb out of the left loop. The string will go around your neck, but when you pull the string tight in front of you, the loops will be on both the right and left hand just as when you started.

Remember to tell them that they mustn't try it as only **you** have the knowledge to do this.

SHRUNKEN HEAD

Find a large cooking apple that isn't too round. Carefully carve out some eyes, nose (or nostrils), a mouth and some ears. They don't have to be too precise. Put the apple in a warm place, perhaps at the bottom of the airing cupboard or on a sunny window ledge, away from anything that might eat it. In about a week, check what is happening. The apple should begin to shrink, and the appearance of a shrunken head will begin to take place. It looks surprisingly creepy. You could fool people and say that someone brought it back with them on holiday and that it is a real shrunken head.

FUNFAX

HORROR STICKERS

STICKERS

horror file stickers

horror file stickers

horror file stickers